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PALESTINE

FILE NO. 46

pp. 3186 - 3393

CLOSED 1978

61773

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COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LOI

No 94. (171/42/47) at New York. HIS Majesty's Permanent Delegate to the U.N. presents his compliments to H.M.P.S. of Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents. British...Delegation..to.the United Nations, New York. April 9th, 194.7... Reference to previous correspondence: New York Tel: No. 1053 of March 29th Description of Enclosure. Name and Date. Subject. Copy of letter from Special Session of General Assembly for Executive Assistant to the Secretary-Palestine question. General, United Nations, and telegram from Acting Secretary-General, United Nations. dated April 3rd, 1947.

•

171/42/47.

UNITED NATIONS, LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK. EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL.

3 April, 1947

Ref. 801-13-1/PJB

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Secretary-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter number 22 (171/25/47) of 2 April in which you inform him that your Government has requested that the question of Palestine be placed on the Agenda of the next regular session of the General Assembly, and has also asked for a special session of the General Assembly to be summoned as soon as possible for the purpose of constituting and instructing a special committee to prepare for the consideration of this question.

I have the honour to inform you that in accordance with your Government's request, the question of Palestine will be placed on the provisional Agenda of the second regular session of the General Assembly. Furthermore the Acting Secretary-General has enquired of the other Members of the United Nations as to whether they concur in the summoning of

/ a

a special session for the purpose set forth in your letter.

and I enclose herein for your information a copy of the

relevant telegram.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) Andrew W. Cordier
Executive Assistant to the
Secretary-General

His Excellency,
The Right Honourable Sir Alexander Cadogan,
G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the
United Nations,
Empire State Building,
New York 1, N.Y.

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| 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Reference: FO 371 61773

COPY.

UNITED NATIONS.

OUTGOING CABLEGRAM.

HAVE THE HONOR NOTIFY YOU THAT ON 2 APRIL UNITED KINGDOM
GOVERNMENT REQUESTED SECRETARY GENERAL TO PLACE QUESTION OF PALESTINE
ON AGENDA NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN ACCORDANCE
WITH RULE FOUR PROVISIONAL RULES PROCEDURE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAVE HONOR
INFORM YOU THAT UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT FURTHER REQUESTED SECRETARY
GENERAL IN VIEW OF DESIRABILITY OF AN EARLY SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE
TO SUMMON SPECIAL SESSION GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR
PURPOSE OF CONSTITUTING AND INSTRUCTING A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PREPARE
FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ABOVE QUESTION AT NEXT REGULAR SESSION.
THEREFORE HAVE HONOR INQUIRE WHETHER YOUR GOVERNMENT CONCURS IN
SUMMONING SPECIAL SESSION FOR THIS PURPOSE AND TO REQUEST YOU NOTIFY
ME OF ITS DECISION. IF WITHIN THIRTY DAYS MAJORITY OF MEMBERS CONCUR
SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE CONVOKED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE ELEVEN.

VICTOR HOO ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL. COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: 1 0 371 61773

I would probably he had to dry.

This discussion until it can be rounted in New York.

Don't the other hand the State
Depostment may presiting for Lord
Assumbaged to comment on their list.
We could (if there is time) afrog Sin A.
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remind the 8/5 of our til. 15 Was hington
no. 3655; has a graph 4.

H.Buly 237

Reter to leave it, I think, hut we might could a short let: to New York.

1/24/3

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: FO 371 61773

E 31076

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations).

No. 1173.

D. 6.55 p.m. 15th April 1947. R. 2.30 p.m. 16th April 1947.

15th April 1947.

M. S. SO P. M. L.

Repeated to Washington.

0:0:0:0

IMPORTANT.

GIANT.

LIGHT.

SECRET.

E-2001/2 /

Your telegram No. 3655 to Washington.

Palestine.

My comments on State Department's list are as follows.

- New Zealand. I should prefer Denmark and Turkey to India and Persia. Either Sweden or Norway might be all right depending rather on the individual selected. I would admit Belgium and Czechoslovakia; but I do hope Poland can be excluded, I should not object to Brazil whose representatives have some regard for merits of a case and do not necessarily blindly follow a United States lead. Colombia would probably be better than Mexico. Both Siam and the Philippines are rather fantastic, but I suppose one of the Philippines are rather fantastic, but I suppose one of the I suppose we could not get the Netherlands on. They would be the best choice, but it might be considered that this would be overweighting Western Europe, in the circumstances another Latin-American might fill the eleventh place and probably Peru would be the best. Costa Rica and El Salvador can hardly be seriously considered in a matter of this importance.
- 3. I do not however quite understand the reference in paragraph 4 of your telegram to "nominating" states for the commission and I cannot believe that there is any possibility of nomination strictly speaking. We shall surely have to proceed to an election in the normal way and we must indeed expect, as you say in paragraph 3 of your telegram, that the list will undergo revision in the assembly itself.

- C 371 61773

NIN SE

10 Registry No. E 3/87/46/3/ OUT FILE Your let: no: 1173 [of april 15th Confidential. Draft lilefram Palestine Committee We agree generally, but stayed UK Delegation have would propose to leave this aspect of the matter for further U.S. und other Allyation New Hark. NOTH

OUT FILE

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

E3187/46/31 Confidential. Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK.

(To Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations).

No. 1262

25th April 1947.

D. 3.35 p.m. 26th April 1947.

Repeated to Washington No. 4084.

VVV

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No. 1173 [of April 15th: Palestine Committee].

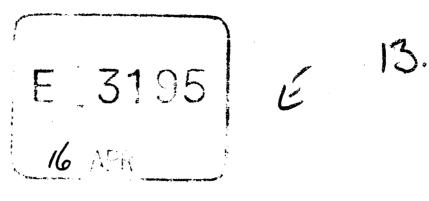
We agree generally, but would propose to leave this aspect of the matter for further consideration when proceedings open at New York.

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32003 F.O.P.

E 3197

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1170.

D. 5.36 p.m. 15th April, 1947.

15th April, 1947.

R. 2. 5 am. 16th April, 1947.

Repeated to Washington, Moscow,

5 5 5 5

IMMEDIATE.

GIANT.

LIGHT.

CONFIDENTIAL.

5. 8. 3093/-0/31

Your telegram 1135.

Palestine.

Proposal outlined in paragraph 2 of your telegram under reference has been put to secretariat who however feel strongly that its constitutional validity would be challenged in various quarters and with some justification. They consider it most important that general committee or whatever takes its place should not be open to any objection on constitutional grounds since it will have to decide among other things on whole question of Jewish representation. If its decisions were subsequently to be challenged on grounds that it was not legally constituted any hope of assembly achieving useful purpose would be gravely prejudiced.

2. Secretariat appreciate our anxiety that special assembly should if possible confine itself to Palestine issue. But they point out that this question is the responsibility of the assembly as a whole and not of the secretariat or of ourselves: and if someone wishes to introduce additional items they will if they get necessary majority do so irrespective of whether action is taken under rule 101 or not. Secretariat's own idea is in any case that assembly should elect chairmen of main committees, so that they can participate in work of general committee, but that committees themselves should not (repestiment) actually come into existence since, in all probability,

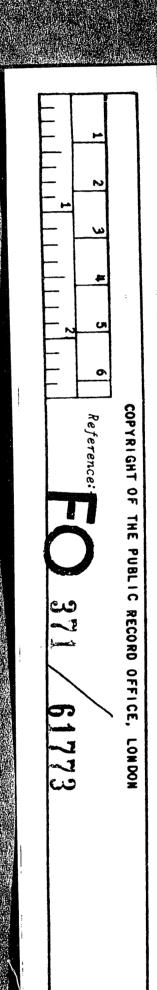
they

they would consist of exactly the same people in each case. They doubt very much whether chairmen of committees, once elected, search for ways and means to justify their existence, since these same people would be fully occupied by the discussions in the plenary on the major problem of instructing and constituting the commission.

- proposal for a Bureau consisting of the President and seven Vice-Presidents, is that this would give disproportionate representation to five great powers, which would be much resented by smaller powers and would accordingly lead to prolonged discussions.
- 4. I propose however to discuss this whole problem with secretary-general in person tomorrow when I will put to him again the arguments contained in your telegram under reference. I doubt however whether I shall convince him since secretariat evidently whether I shall convince him since secretariat evidently feel very strongly that given the highly contentious nature of the Palestine issue, nothing must be done on the procedural level which might justifiably be challenged on constitutional grounds.

Foreign Office please pass to Moscow as my telegram No. 1600.

[Repeated to Moscow]



32003 F.O.P

03 F.U.P

INDEXED

Discussion of Palestine at the Special Session of the General Assembly.

We have hitherto tried to foresee the course of events in the forthcoming special session of the United Nations Assembly on the assumption that the British proposal for the establishment of a Preparatory Committee would be the only item on the agenda. It is by no means certain however that the Arabs and the Zionists may not each try to induce the Assembly to approach the problem in a different way.

According to Cairo telegram No. 900 of the 14th April, paragraph 14, it is reported in the Egyptian Press that the Judicial Committee of the Arab League sees no objection to a separate and simultaneous submission of the Palestine question to the United Nations by the Arab States. It is quite possible that this advice will be put before the meeting of Arab Foreign Ministers which is to take place on the 19th, with the object of concerting the Arab attitude at the special Assembly. The possibility must therefore be taken into account that the Arabs will try to obtain a two-thirds majority for the addition to the agenda of some resolutions bearing on the substance of the Palestine. problem.

It is probable that the Jewish Agency are considering action of two/accounts. They might press for a resolution instructing the Mandatory Government to remove the existing restrictions from Jewish immigration pending a decision by the United Nations. Or they might try to influence the drafting of the resolution establishing the Preparatory Committee in such a way as to give a bias to to investigations. In this connexion the following passage from yesterday's bulletin of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency is of interest. "Diplomatic circles here (i.e. in New York) believe that the Jewish Cause will best be served if the fact-finding commission is instructed to investigate whether Britain has carried out the terms of the Palestine Mandate." The Jewish Agency can only

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Lhind

Minutes.

influence the proceedings in so far as it is able to persuade the Government Pelegates to sponsor its suggestions. This being the position, it is also probable that the Agency will try to secure a favourable ruling on its own association with the United Nations during the consideration of the Palestine problem.

H. Beeley. 17th April, 1947.

Inchort, we sound be ready for Curprises from batt Arabs & few.

L.N) Sapt.

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othing to be Written in this Margin.

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E 3197

16

UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

TELEPHONE:
LONGACRE 5-2070

9th April 1947.

Dear Department:

You will already have seen Washington's telegram No. 2038 of 4th April regarding the article by Herbert Matthews in the New York Times of April 3rd stating that "The British have definitely decided not to relinquish their mandate in Palestine when the General Assembly meets to consider the Palestinian problem."

This article, whatever its source, had a most unfortunate effect in New York as well. Coming on the very day when we had every right to expect favourable publicity and some credit for submitting the Palestine issue to the United Nations, this story purporting to state our unexpressed reservations appeared on the front page of the New York Times while the news of our action in submitting the case to the United Nations was relegated to page 9. The story also put the press into a very suspicious frame of mind. We have done our best to restore a more balanced estimate of our action but we are still being subjected to a great deal of questioning on the issues raised by this article. We would therefore, like the Washington Embassy (see Paragraph 4 of their telegram 2038), appreciate any further clarification which you can give us of the views and policy of H.M.G.

Yours ever,

DELECTION

United Nations Department Foreign Office London, S.W.1.

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Reference:

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Cypher/OTP

DÉPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM CAIRO TO JERUSALEM.

Sir R. Campbell. No. 51 Saving

14 AM 12th April 1947. R. 1.50 p.m. 16th April 1947.

Repeated to:

Foreign Office No. 50 Saving (En Clair by Damascus No. 25 Saving bag) Beirut No. 31 Saving Amman No. 46 Saving Jedda No. 34 Saving Bagdad No. 30 Saving.

AAA

Your telegram No. 34 of 1st April.

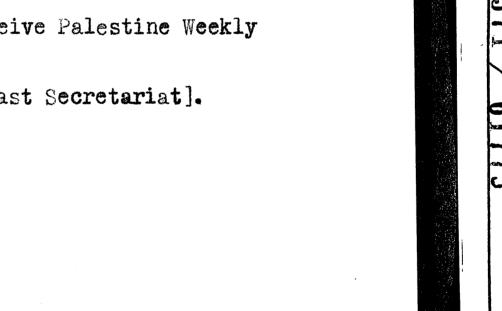
Statutory Martial Law and General Terrorism.

Many thanks. I seize your point as regards the distinction between Martial Law and Statutory Martial Law.

Our difficulty in meeting Egyptian criticism (see paragraph 3 of your telegram) is that this criticism takes the form that severe pressure should be maintained without interruption in order to force the Jews to co-operate to put an end to Jewish terrorism.

I shall be glad to receive Palestine Weekly Intelligence appreciation.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].





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Reference: COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No.1180 16th April,1947. D. 6.25 p.m. 16th April, 1947.

R. 2.05 a.m. 17th April, 1947.

Repeated to Moscow, and Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE
GIANT
LIGHT
CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No.1170.

Palestine.

I saw Secretary General this morning and he gave me note on proposed plan of procedure at special assembly summarised in my immediately following telegram.

- States and other delegates of plan which as you will see follows line taken by Secretariat as reported in my telegram under reference. For my own part I think we should approve proposed procedure since however cumbersome it may appear its strict conformity with rules should eliminate so far as possible discussion on procedure at initial stage which would otherwise be endless and a crimonious.
 - 3. I am replying separately to your telegram No.1153.

Foreign Office please pass to Moscow as my telegram No.162.

[Repeated to Moscow.]



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		5 3221 23
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 Cypher/OTP.

32? DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

24

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Duff Cooper.
No. 288.
16th April 1947.

D. 9.22 a.m. 17th April 1947.

R. 11.49 a.m. 17th April 1947.

W:W:W:W:W

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

E 2817/46/51

Your telegram No. 577.

All possible security precautions have been taken.

- 2. Security of Embassy cannot however be satisfactory in absence of security guards.
- 3. Local Army Commander informs me M.O.3 War Office still refuse him permission to supply guards from British Army Staff (France) as Embassy security is not a military commitment.
- 4. I have informed local police forces and requested additional protection. They do not consider the danger to be acute in view of the open activities of the Jewish agency here. They consider agency to have some control over extremists and that reprisals by latter would so jeopardise the status of the agency here that we can count on considerable restraining influence from that quarter.

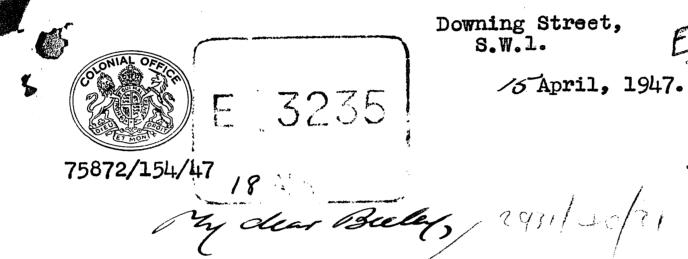
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Reference: FO 371 61773

PALEONIE Registry Number FROM No.DatedReceivedin Registry (Minutes.) Last Paper. Mr. Mathieson's letter has been dealt 3221 with by telephone, and does not need a reply in writing. References. The following are comments on the High Commissioner's telegram. Paragraph 1. This question is covered in the draft brief for the U.A. Delegation. Valid one, but our present inclination is to suggest that the Preparatory Committee should not be empowered (Print.) to make specific recommendations to the Assembly. Perhaps the Delegation should be asked to bear the ligh Commissioner's wishes in mind in the drafting of the Committee's terms of reference, if in fact they do include the making of recommendations. (How disposed of.) Paragraph 4. I will look up the memorandum mentioned in the first sub-paragraph, of which I have a copy. I have told Mr. Mathieson that we of course assume that the memorandum will be sent to Palestine in draft. The point obscurely mentioned in the third sub-paragraph is being dealt with by the Colonial Office, and does not affect the memorandum now being drafted. The document mentioned in the Yourth sub-paragraph has been added to the list. Paragraph 4. The sentence which the high Commissioner wished to amend in the draft statement on H.M.G's intentions has now been deleted. The sentence substituted for it (see Secretary of State's telegram No. 709 from Moscow) is not open to the same objection, and the Colonial Office agree that no action need be taken on the High Commissioner's proposal. (Index.) (Action completed.) 7 18th April, 1947. Next Paper. 9243

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5 > 8



I enclose a copy of a telegram from the High Commissioner for Palestine in reply to our telegram No.678 about submission to the United Nations. The High Commissioner's observation in paragraph 2 is, we think, particularly valuable.

We should be glad to know if you would agree to our sending the High Commissioner a copy of the memorandum you are preparing as soon as a first complete draft is available. I assume that your source material included the confidential memorandum by the Palestine Government referred to in paragraph 3 of the High Commissioner's telegram.

We have asked Palestine to let us have by early air mail ten copies of all three volumes of the Survey.

There appears to be some corruption in the last paragraph of the telegram, where the words "which they cannot consciously carry out" must presumably mean "which they cannot carry out without offending their conscience" or some more felicitous phrase in this sense. You may wish to consider the High Commissioner's suggestion when the wording of the formula is next under review.

H. BEELEY, ESQ., C.B.E.

Jours an, WM Malheron COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

| 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Reference: FO 371 61773



INWARD TELEGRAM

14

2

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 11th April, 1947.
R. 12th " 07.00 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

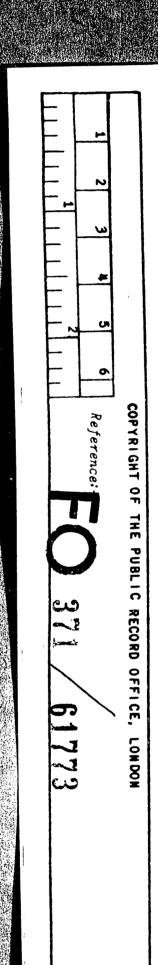
No.769 Top Secret and Personal.

Reference your telegram No. 678.

1. Paragraph 2.

It is assumed that suggested composition of Committee is just matter of convenience and to avoid what would doubtless be difficult discussions in Assembly if course were adopted of Committee by selection. You will no doubt be well eware of the bitter criticism Zionist circles will level at the inclusion of three Arab voters. There seems to me little doubt it would be of practical advantage (?if omitted) Arab states themselves abstained from taking part, but I have equally little doubt it would not be possible to persuade them to withdraw, or to avoid the challenge, did we attempt to do so, that we ourselves are also interested parties and should therefore also abstain. On the whole, therefore, I would not be prepared to question general suitability of procedure suggested.

Paragraph 3. I have only one comment to make on this paragraph but I feel it is of greatest importance. Practicability of any plan for Palestine cannot be determined unless that plan is worked out in detail. This was not done in Peel Report or in report of Anglo-American Committee, with result that the Palestine problem has never been solved. If there is to be the slightest chance of finality on this ecoasion, and I think it is agreed that there must be finality, whatever plan is eventually recommended must complete such matters as boundaries, arrangements for immigration, etc. Fact Finding Committee will



be the only body which will be in a position to produce such details and therefore have to be specifically charged in this respect. I am not suggesting that they should only put the stated plan, but any plans which are not eliminated should be fully worked out before presentation to the Committee.

- 3. Paragraph 4(a).
- 1. I would suggest that in memorandum outlining political history of Palestine under British Administration, full use should be made of confidential memorandum "Administration of Palestine under Mandate" which was prepared here and presented to Anglo-American Committee.
- 2. I do not know whether it would be possible for up to see Government memorandum draft, but should it be so possible, we would welcome it.
- 5. When I was last home I made a suggestion to Mr. Martin regarding the use of certain information in any document prepared for H.M.G. on this subject, and I have no doubt this has been considered.
- (b) I suggest adding siso Survey of Palostine, Volume 3, which contains much useful supplementary information.
 - 4. Paragraph 5.

I suggest deleting after "Policy" in last sentence of formula and adding "which they cannot consciously carry out, or of putting into effect any plan which within their knowledge of local conditions they feel is impracticable". It might be considered that bare statement as it stands lays us open to accusation that we will only accept policy which suits our own political ends whatever the world thinks. Ends.

Distributed to: 2

MS. 25

Scoretary of State

Sir T. Lloyd

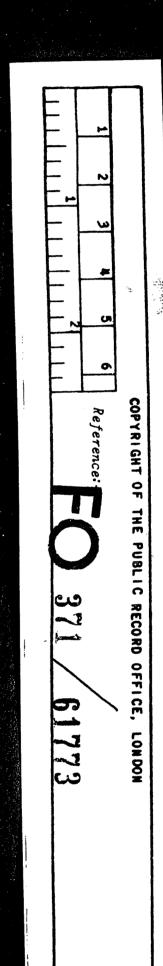
Mr. I. Thomas

Mr. Mertin

Sir D. Harris

Mr. Trafford Smith

Mr. Mathleson Mr. Highem Mr. Eastwood Mr. Bennett Mr. Bigg Duty Officer



INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 14th April, 1947.
R. 14th

18.55 hre.

E 3243

No.783

Addressed to S. of S. to S. Or S. to Washington, No.78. to Ambassador, Cairo, No.41 (please pass to C-in-C.). Repeated

- to Beirut, No.529.
- to Damascus, No.530.
- to Jedda, No.52. to Amman, No.531. 11

Incidents.

At 14.15 hours on 13th April, detainee Geulah Cohen escaped from Hospital in Jerusalem during a comotion caused by two Arabs Visiting the hospital.

/Copies sent to:-

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

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```
- Private Secretary.
Foreign Office
                               - Mr. C.W. Baxter.
                               - Sir R.G. Howe.
                               - Dominions Intelligence Dapt.
          " (Research Dept.) - Air Commodore K.C. Buss.
          " (Middle East
                               - Mr. D. A. Greenhill.
               Scoretariat)
                               - Major Gen. A.J.C. Pollock.
                               - Mr. J.C. Robertson.
- General Sir L. Hollis.
M. I.5
Cabinet Offices
                               - Group Captain Stapleton.
                               - Mr. T.A.G. Charlton.
                               - Chief of Naval Staff.
Admiralty
                               - O. I. G. S.
War Office
                               - Lt. Col. W. Gore.
            (M.I.3)
 $$
                               - Major Telfer Smollett.
            (M.T.3a)
                               - Lt.Col. J.G.Atkinson.
            (Ma O . 4)
                               - Chief of Air Staff.
Air Ministry
                               - Private Secretary.
Ministry of Defence
                               - Sir Henry Wilson Smith.
private Secretary, No.10 Downing Street.
J.A.R. Pimlott, Esq., Private Secretary to the
                 Lord President of the Council.
```

INWARD TELEGRAM

132 €

3543 (40 3)

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cumningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 19th April, 1947.
R. 20th " 07.00 hrs. INDEXED

No. 825

Addressed to S. of S.

Repeated to Washington No. 85.

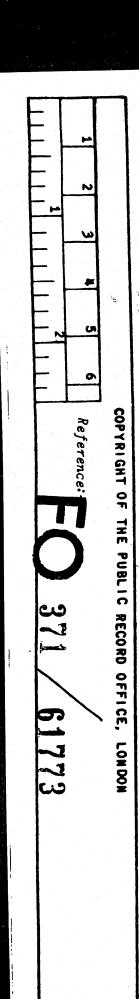
"Beirut No. 561.
"Amman No. 562.
"Damascus Saving.

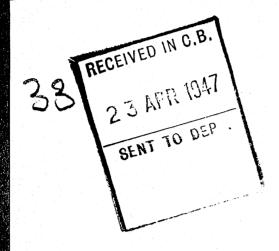
Incidents 18th April.

In Tel Aviv a police armoured car was fired on by unknown persons. A bomb was also thrown. Two British Constables were injured, one has since died. One unidentified civilian was killed and three others alightly injured.

- 2. At No. 61 Field Dressing Station, Nathanys, eight Jews drove up in a truck, shot the British sentry dead and laid explosive charges. The Orderly Room was wrecked.
- 3. In Herzl Street, Heifa, two military despatch riders were fired on from a saloon car. No casualties.
- the In King George Avenue, Haife, military personnel wors fired on from a saloom car. They returned fire and hit car, which was later found shandoned. No known casualties.

/Comies





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                   (Middle Mast
                       Secretariat) - Mr. D.A. Greenhill.
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                                         - Mr. J.C. Robertson.
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    53
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                                         - Lt. Col. W. Gore.
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                                         - Chief of Air Staff.
Air Ministry
Ministry of Defence
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                                         - Sir Henry Wilson Smith.
Private Secretary, No. 10 Downing Street.

J.A.R. Pimlott, Esq., Private Secretary to the
Lord President of the Council.
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INWARD TELEGRAM

3243 46 B1.

En Clair

FROM PALEST INPEXER Siz A. Chuningham)

TO S. OP S. . COLOUTES.

D. 20th April, 1947.

21.30 1118.

No. 825

Addressed to S. of S. Repeated to Washington, No. 87.
Ambassador Cairo, No. 48, (please pass to C.-in-C.). Bolrut, No. 563. Amman, No. 564. Damascus saving.

My telegren No. 825.

Incidents.

- 2. Glad to inform you writish Constable is not report not dead as reported. His condition is however critical.
- 2. Same telegram. Body of unidentified civilian was removed last night from mortuary by persons unknown.

Coples

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Copies sent los-
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of Pastage Secondress,
Poreign Office
                                  - Mr. C. W. Beater.
                                  - Six R. G. Hove.
               - Dominione Intelligence Dept. (Research Dept.) - Air Commodors K.O. Buss.
               (Middle Wast
                   Secretariat) - Mr. D.A. Greenill
                                  - Major Gen. A.J. C. Pollicks
                                  - Mr. J.C. Posertaon.
Mo Io5
                                  - Gene Sir Le Hollise
Cabinet Offices
                                  - Grosp Capt Stapleton.
                                  . Mr. T.A.G. Charlion.
                                  - Chief of Nevel Staff.
Admiralty
                                  - C. L. G. S.
War Office
                                  . Lt. Col. W. Gores
            (M. I.3)
                                   - Major Telfer Smollett.
            (M.1.32)
                                   - Lt. Col. J.G. Atkinson.
            (M. O. 4)
                                   - Chief of Air Staff.
Air Minisory
Ministry of Defence
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                                   - Sir Henry Willson Smith.
Private Secretary, No. 10 Downing Street.
J.A.R. Pimlott, Esq. Private Secretary to the
Lord President of the Council.
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OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

INWARD TELEGRAM

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INDEXED

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Bir A Gunninghem)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D 21st April, 1.947.
R. 21st " 3.9.05 hrs.

No.829

Addressed to Sa of Sa Repeated to washington, Wo.88.

" dairo, mo.49. (Please pass com to Caminoca)

" Betrut, No. 565. no. 566. " Amman.

" Damascus by savingram, No.170.

Incidents 20th April, 1947

At 07.30 hours in Moriah Street Hairs a road mine containing a considerable amount of Italian explosive was discovered partly buried in a heap of asphalt.

- 2. At 08.10 hours near Kiryat Motskin on the Heifa Acre Road an Arab Legion truck was blown up by a land mine. Two Troopers of the Arab Legion were slightly injured.
- 3. At 21.55 hours at Nathanya Convalencent Depot a bomb was thrown into the Camp Cinema just as audience were leaving. Extensive damage was done to the Cinema. One soldier was seriously and three Arabs elightly injured. There were some 200 people in the Cinema at the time. Seven unknown persons were observed running away and were fired on. One le believed to have been hit.
- 4. At 22.00 hours at Ramat Zev a truck of the Sherwood Foresters were blown up by a land mine. Four British soldiers were slightly injured. 15.



5. At 12.30 hours near Allenby Barracks, Jerusalem, an Arab watchman saw a man dressed as an Arab behaving in suspicious manner. The man made off, the area was searched and a land mine disguised as a kilometre stone was found.

5. At 23.55 hours at Petah Tiqua a Police party signalled an approaching pickup to stop. The pickup drove on, fire was opened apparently without result, the pickup was pursued and was found abandoned on a sand track. It contained two complete and two partly finished land mines and a quantity of mine accessories. Is those occupants, one of whom is believed to have been a girl, escaped.

Incidents 21st April, 1947.

At 07.35 hours at kild 117 on the Khirbet Belt Lid Haifa Road the last truck of a military convoy was blown up by a mine. The driver was slightly injured and some damage to material was caused.

```
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                 (Hiddle Bast Secretariat) - Maj. Gen. A. J.C. Pollock.
      43.
                          3.5
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  Mo I . 5.
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                                        -.C.I.G.S.
          " (Mo I o 30)
                                        - Lt.Col. W. Core.
          " (M.I.Ja)
                                        - Major Telfer Smolletta
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INWARD TELEGRAM

Ents 38

HARMON LANGE

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 22nd April, 1947. R. 22nd 18.00 hrs.

No. 834

Addressed to G. of S.

Repeated "Washington No. 91.

Repeated "Washington No. 52 (Please pass

"Ambassador Cairo No. 52 (Please pass

"O G. in C.).

" Beirut No. 568.
" Amman No. 569.
" by savingram to Damasous No. 171.

Terrorist Incidents.

At 08.20 hours today (22nd April), the Cairo-Halfa train was fired on and blown up near Rehovoth. Four escenes were derailed. Casualties (subject to confirmation) are

Schously injured. Shightly injured. Shightly injured. Shightly injured.

Saperard Compared dismurbled by the Military.

/copies

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                                  ... Major Gen. A.J.C. Pollocke
                                  - Mr. J.C. Robertson.
M. I.5
                                  - Gen. Sir L. Hollis.
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   88
Admiralty
                                  - Co. I. G. S.
War Office
                                  - Lt. Col. W. Gore.
             (N.I.3)
                                  - Major Telfer Smollett.
             (M.I.Ja)
                                  - Lt. Col. J.G. Atkinson.
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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: FO 371 61773

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INWARD TELEGRAM

mt 40

En Clair



#Washington

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 23rd April, 1947.
R. 23rd " 21.15 hrs.

No. 841

Addressed to S. of S.

Repeated "Washington No. 92.
"B.M.E.O. Cairo No. 64 (please pass copy to G.H.Q. and M.E.L.F.).
"Beirut No. 576.
"Amman No. 577.
"Damascus by savingram No. 173.

Terrorist incidents on 22nd April. Casualties in train derailment reported in my telegram No. 834 are now established as follows

- (a) 5 B.O.R.'s killed
- (b) 3 Arab civilians killed
- (c) 1 Polish Sgt., 1 Polish A.T.S. and 1 Arab civilian seriously injured
- (d) 3 Arab civilians slightly injured.
- 2. Following theft to taxi and kidnapping of driver by armed men in Tel Aviv, Police (?group omitted) to place where driver was being held and found the taxi driver, a truck driver and a third person in custody of two armed Jews. Police opened fire at Jews who attempted to escape seriously wounding and capturing one. Captured man was in possession of automatic pistol.
- 3. In Haifa at 11.00 hours a land mine exploded while an Army car was passing no (repeat no) casualties or damage.
- 4. In Jerusalem at 18.45 hours a hand grenade was thrown at a military patrol. No (repeat no) casualties.

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                                - Major Telfer Smollett.
           (M.I.3a)
                                - Lt. Col. J.G. Atkinson.
           (M_{\bullet}O_{\bullet}4)
                                - Chief of Air Staff.
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                                - Sir Henry Wilson Smith.
Private Secretary, No. 10 Downing Street.
J.A.R. Pimlott, Esq., Private Secretary to the Lord President of the Council.
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INWARD TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 24th April, 1947. R. 24th

20.10 hrs.

No.851

Addressed to S. of S.

Repeated to Washington, No.94.

to B.M.E.O., Cairo, No.65 (please pass copy to B.M.E.O., Cairo, No.65 (please pass copy to G.H.Q.M.E.L.F.) Addressed to S. of S.

- to Beirut, No. 584.

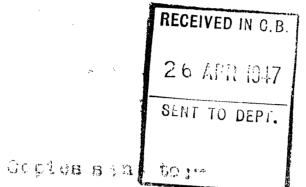
to Amman, No.585.
by savingram to Damascus, No.174.

Terrorist incidents.

At 16.05 hours on 23rd April, two W.D. trucks were blown up on the Lydda-Petah Tiqva road and simultaneously fired on with automatic weapons. Four B.O.R.'s were injured, one seriously. An unexploded mine was found nearby and dismantled. Three men were seen running from the scene and were fired on without result.

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                      Secretoriat)-Mr. D.A. Greenhill.
"-Major General A.J.C.Pollock.
- Mr. J.C. Robertson.
Ma I o Do
Jabinet Offices
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           Group Capt. Stapleton.

Mr. T. A.G. Charlton.

Chief of Naval Staff.

C.I.G.S.

(M.I.J.)

Major Telfer Smollett.

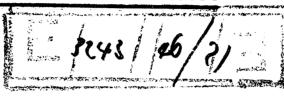
Major Telfer Smollett.

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Sin Ham.
                                      - Sir Harry Wilson Smith.
Private Secretary, Moulo Downing Street,
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Lord President of the Council.

INWARD TELEGRAM



Entos F

En Clair

FROM PALESTING (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 25th April, 1947. R. 25th "

18.10 hrs.

INDEXED

No. 852.

Addressed to S. of S.

Repeated to Washington No. 95.

"B.M.E.O. Cairo No. 66. (Please pass to M.E.L.F. and G.H.4)

"Amman No. 586.
"Damascus by savingram No. 176.

ŧ

At 11.00 hours three unknown armed men dressed in Police uniform held up Farmers Bank Affule stole £(P) 550 and escaped. Not known whether party were Arabs or Jews.

Terrorist incidents on 24th April.

- At 21.25 hours an explosion occurred in Haifa. An unidentified man believed to be a Jew was found on the scene. He subsequently died in hospital. Believed that he was carrying a bomb which exploded accidentally. Adjourning buildings were searched and quantity of illegal literature seized.
- At 20.40 hours on Haifa Jaffa road near Petah Tiqua a bren gun carrier exploded two small road mines, no casualties or damage.
- At 23.00 hours five armed Jews entered a hotel in Tel Aviv and inquired whether any Britishers were present. They were informed that one British business man was there and that he was a Jew. He was abducted, but returned 10 minutes later unharmed and stated that his captors on finding that he was a Jew had released him.

/Copies

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- Lt. Col. J.G. Atkinson.
              (M. I. 3.)
              (M. I. 39)
              (M.0.4.),
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- Private Secretary.
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46

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLORTES.

D. 25th April, 1947.
R. 25th 22.40 hrs.

No.856

MOEXED

Addressed to S. of S. Repeated to Ambassador Washington, No.96.

"B.M.E.O Cairo (please pass copy to C.-in-C. and Ambassador) No.67.

Amman No.587. Damascus by savingram.

Terrorist incidents.

At 11.15 hrs. this morning two explosions occurred in Sarona Police Camp demolishing the Telephone Exchange Office and the Company Office.

Two bodies of British Constables have been recovered and it is thought a number more are still buried in the debris. Additional particulars not yet availabe.

In Jorusalem this morning a man was observed to deposit a suspicious parcel in a tree. It was later found to be a wine and a person corresponding to the description of the depositor was subsequently detained. /Copies

47

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- Dominions Intelligence
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" " - Sir Henry Wilson Smith.

Private Secretary, No.10 Downing Street.

J.A.R. Pimlett, Esq., Private Secretary to the

Lord President of the Council.
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INWARD TELEGRAM

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3248 46 31

April 1 Frage 1 M

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 25th April, 1947. R. 26th ""

07.00 hrs.

No. 857

Addressed to S. of S.

Repeated to Washington, No. 97.

to B.M.E.O., Cairo, No. 68 (please pass copy to C. in C. M.E.L.F. and Ambassador).

to Amman, No. 590.

to Damascus by savingram.

My telegram No. 856.

Terrorist incidents.

Following are additional particulars of terrorist outrage at Sarona this morning.

stopped in Tel Aviv by a Jew dressed as a Palestinian Constable. Vehicle was then held up by eight armed men and the driver and one other Post Office employee were abducted and taken to neighbourhood of Benei Braq where they were held under guard until about 11.15 hours. They were then left bound, but freed themselves and reported to Police Station.

/2.

Telephone Exchange and Office. Casualties to date are dead 2 British Constables, seriously injured 1 British Constable, slightly injured 2 British Constables, injury degree not yet known 2 British Constables, still unaccounted for 1 British Inspector, 1 British Constable, 1 Arab T.A.C.

```
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  Air Ministry
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  Ministry of Defence
                                   Sir Henry Wilson Smith.
  Private Secretary, No. 10 Downing Street.
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                      Lord President of the Council.
```

En Clair

PROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Ouuminghom)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 26th April, 1947.

INDEXED

No. 663

Addressed to S. of S.

" Ambensador Machington Po. 98. Repeated

" B.M. B.O. No. 69 (Flease pass copy to

G. in C. and Ambashador).

" Amaron, Was 1984. for severagest to Discussion for TS.

Transpiet incident on 25th April.

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TH. O.C.

was because they are three Erision Colombies

Sizghtiy Jujured

Seriesaly injured one British Condenie, one T.A.C. three British foresymbles, one a C. R., one Arth elvil un. her Jonish

divillanc, one then T.A.C.

In addition, about fixty popular wave breated for mider injuries.

that the Gyris house, throp wrack four (two men and a gard) isold up a text in Tel Aviv and staked thet at was required by the National Military Organization. The drives rosisted and ras struck with a piniol. A prove garacree and the assatiants made off.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

25 APN 1947

En Glair

FROM PALESTIME (Gene Sin A. Cumingham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

INDEXED D. 26th April, 1947. R. 27th F 07.00 hrs.

No. Sou

Addresses to Salof Us Reposted " Ambasesdor Petalogian Was 99. $\mathbb{F}_{1,M}^{-1}$. On the Well 70 (Please case supplies Ambassadon and C. in (2) " Angan Ko. 59% hy geringram to Deckeller.

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Jan Bener Wisson Strike

OFFICE,

Keep with pp 53 M-29/4.

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

INWARD TELEGRAM

D. 28th April, 1947. R. 29th " 07.00 hrs.

Mo. 874

Addressed to Secretary of State.
Repeated "Washington No. 100.
"B.M.E.O. No. 72 (Please pass copy to Ambassador and G.E.Q. and M.E.L.F.).
"Amman No. 597.
"Dy savingram to Damascus.

My telegram No. 864.

Terrorist incluents.

Conquest died at 15.30 hours on 26th April.

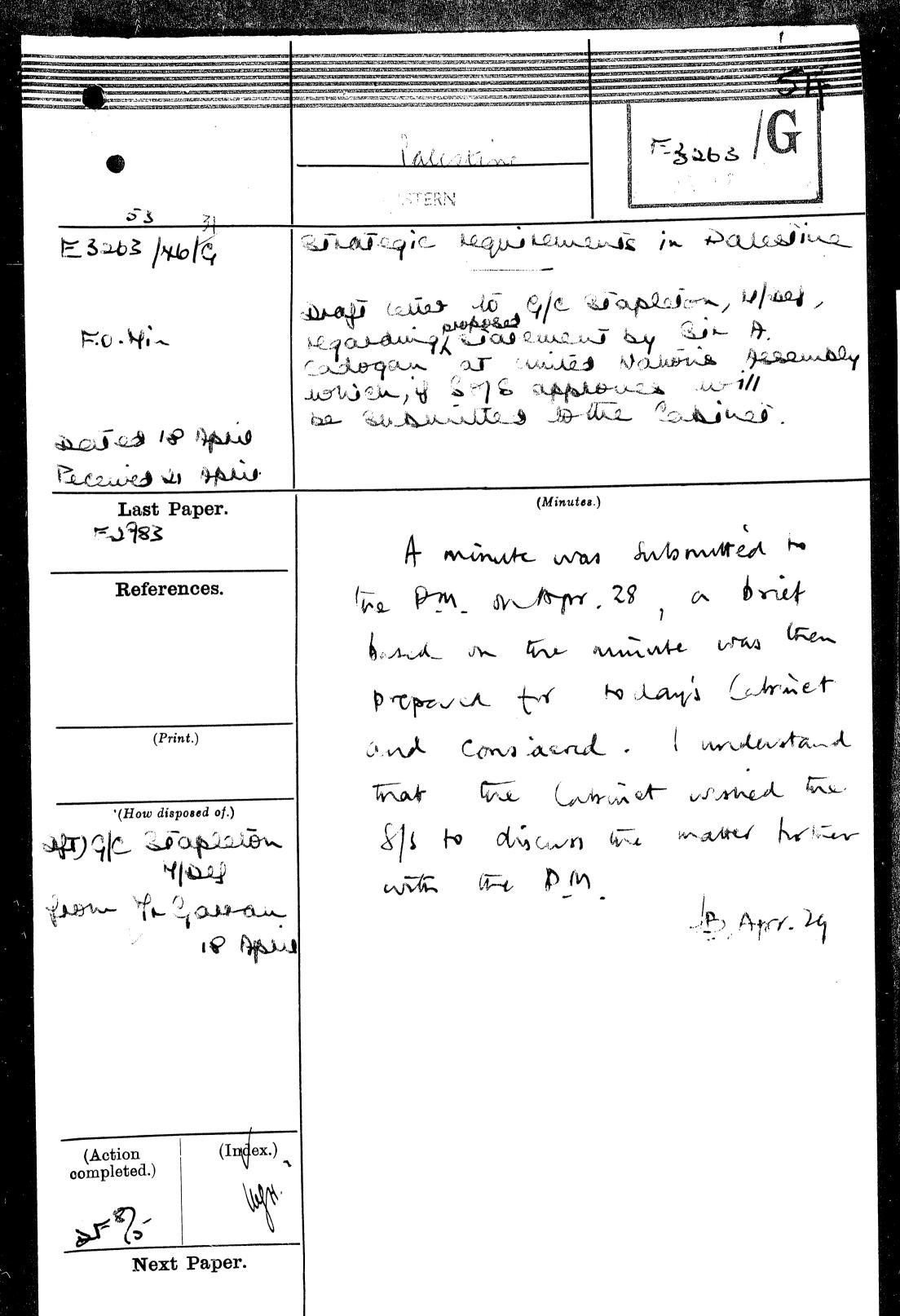
2. At 09.30 house, a grenade was thrown at a C.M.P. vehicle in Jerusalem. No essualties to Military personnel but Jewish civilian was injured. G.O.C. and essort had passed the spot three minutes before.

Copies sent to --

Foreign Office - Private Secretary. - ar. C.W. Banter. - Mr. M. Butler: - Dominions intelligence Dept " (Research Dept.) - Air Commodore K.C. Buse. (Middic Bact Discretariati - Mr. D. A. Greenhill. 14 - Major Gen. A.J.C. Polinck. M.I.5 - Mr. J.S. Robertson. Cabinet iffices - Gam. Gir L. Mollin. - Group Capt. Shapteton. 3.2 - Wr. T.A.G. Charlton. Admiralty - Chief of Wavel Staff. War Office ~ C.I.C.S. Ψ (m. Σ , Ξ) - Lt. Col. W. Gore. (M.T.3a) - Major Telfer Smolledt. " (A. G. L.) - Tita Cola J.C. Attensor. - Chief of Air Staff, Air Ministry Ministry of Defence ... Private Secretary. ... Sir Heary Wilson Smith. Private Sceretary, No. 10 Downing Street.

Lord Fresident of the Council.

J.A.R. Pimlott, Esq. Privato Secretary to the



28653 F.O.P.

SIR O. SARGENT

Important.

Paksting.

Since submitting to you a draft telegram to the Secretary of State in Moscow suggesting terms of a declaration which Sir A. Cadogan might make at the opening of the forthcoming Assembly, my attention has been drawn to the attached Top Secret memo, a copy of which was, I understand, sent with full secrecy precautions to the Secretary of State.

In paras. 9 and 10 (b) of this memo. the Chiefs of Staff record their opinion that it is of supreme importance that H.M.G. should insist on the principle of retaining our essential strategic requirements in Palestine. In para. 11 the Chiefs of Staff recognise that H.M.G. are committed to referring the Palestine question to Uno.

It might in these circumstances be desirable to send a PRISEC chaser to the draft telegram already submitted, which might be as follows:

"My immediately preceding telegram.

You will no doubt recollect that C.O.S. in their Top Secret memo. D.O.(47)3 of 7 March, copy of which was sent to you by bag, recorded their opinion that it was of supreme importance that H.M.G. should insist on the principle of retaining our essential strategic requirements in Palestine."

I understand that the F.O. are endeavouring to ensure that the Chiefs of Staff memo. shall not be considered by the Defence Committee until the Secretary of State is back from Moscow; and that the Secretary of State is aware of this.

16th April, 1947.

I have discussed this with Sirio. Surgere, No think that it who

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only confuse the S. & S. if we keeperphed to him a above but he works in to draw the C.O.S. altertion to the effect of the the declaration which we have proposed to bring before the Calriace.

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Minute

to:

Secretary of

State

from:

Sir Orme Sargent

By the hand of: Lord Parkenham

Palestine and the United Nations Assembly: Statement to be made by Sir A. . Cadogan.

I have received your telegram No. 1015 from Moscow, stating that you agree to the proposal in my telegram No. 897 regarding the line to be taken by Sir A. Cadogan at the opening of the special Assembly, provided that Sir A. Cadogan himself seef no objection.

Unfortunately, Sir A. Cadogan is not happy about this proposal, as you will see from his telegram No. 1253, of Which a copy is attached, and I have therefore thought it best to submit the attached minute to the Prime Minister, in which I have recommended that Sir A. Cadogan should still at the outset make a statement on the lines indicated in paragraph 9 of my telegram No. 897, but that he should have authority to make a statement on the lines of the formula in pargraph 6 of my telegram, if proceedings developed in such a way as to make necessary a more precise statement of the attitude of H.M. Government.

I have kept in mind the recommendation in paragraph 3 of your telegram No. 709 from Moscow that the declaration should be held in reserve, and only made at a suitable moment, To might not occur until discussion at the General Assembly had actually begun, but In the light/of Sir A. Cadogan's telegram, we must envisage the possibility that we must not be able to defer so long a precise statement of our attitude.

Will you please inform me by Most lune dinte belege am if you have any observations on my minute to the P.M.?

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The Prime Minister

Copy for the

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S. of S. Colonial Sec. Minister of Deface.

The submission of the Palestine question to the special session of the United Nations Assembly.

The special session of the United Nations Assembly opens on Monday, April 28th. Sir A. Cadogan may have to present the question formally (from Sir O. Sargent) to the Assembly on the morning of April 29th. He is as yet without final instructions regarding the form which his statement should take, the main point at issue being whether it should include any definition of the attitude of H.M.Government as regards the eventual recommendations of the Assembly, whatever they may be.

There has been already adverse comment in the American press and in Zionist circles at the allegent unwillingness of H.M.Government to make declare in advance that they will accept the Assembly's recommendations. A fine promoter

The difficulty is that, while it is naturally our intention to be guided by the Assembly's recommendations, we are reluctant to bind ourselves in advance to the acceptance of recommendations which would be manifestly unworkable or politically undesirable. We have tried to draft various formulae which would safeguard our position and at the same time remove suspicions as to our "good faith". We must, of course, in any case reserve our right to refuse the responsibility for enforcing any policy which the Assembly may recommend and of which we disapprove.

4. The most eategorical formula we have in New York
drafted runs as follows:-

"His Majesty's Government have asked the General Assembly of the United Nations to make recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine. These recommendations, if carried by a two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 18 of the Charter, will be adopted by His Majesty's Government. His Majesty's Government must, however, reserve their position with regard to themselves enforcing any policy which the General Assembly may recommend."

- such a statement will commit us to accepting, for example, a recommendation by the Assembly that the administration of Palestine should be entrusted to another Power or group of Powers, or, alternatively, that a Jewish State should be established covering the whole of Palestine. It may be unlikely that the Assembly would make either of these recommendations, but acceptance of them might seriously prejudice our position in the Middle East and our relations with the Arab States. Sir A.Cadogan, however, has warned us that nothing less than the formula in para. It asked that the Assembly would make either of these recommendations, but acceptance of them might seriously prejudice our position in the Middle East and our relations with the Arab States. Sir A.Cadogan, however, has warned us that nothing less than the formula in para. It asked the asked that asked th
- 6. Our conclusion is that no such declaration should be made by Sir A. Cadogan at an early stage in the special session of the Assembly but that it should be held in reserve for use if our position of not committing ourselves

becomes

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becomes untenable. (This is in accordance with the view expressed by the Secretary of State in a telegram dated April 11th that such a declaration should only be made at a suitable moment, which might not occur until discussion at the General Assembly had actually begun, and that there was certainly no need to volunteer it at the outset.)

7. A less categorical formula suggested by the Foreign Office and approved by the Secretary of State on condition that Sir A. Cadogan is satisfied with it (which is unfortunately not the case) runs as follows:-

"His Majesty's Government have invited the Assembly to consider this problem, and the Assembly must itself be the sole judge of its own recommendations. His Majesty's Government would therefore regard it as quite inappropriate that they should themselves make any suggestion to the Assembly as to the form which its recommendations should take, and they do not propose to do so. They will confine themselves to placing at the disposal of the Assembly all the information which it requires, and facilitating its consideration of the problem to the fullest possible extent. His Majesty's Government have brought this problem before the Assembly in the confident hope that the Assembly will succeed in recommending a practicable and just solution, which will be accepted by all the Parties . concerned, and will thus provide a basis for the final settlement of this difficult Problem."

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Notwithstanding Sir A. Cadogan's views, I still feel (a) that it would be preferable not to make a statement finally committing H.M.Government, but that (b) proceedings in the special Assembly may develop in such a way that it may not in fact be possible to defer such a statement until the General Assembly meets in September as the Secretary of State originally suggested. I submit therefore that Sir A. Cadogan should be instructed to make, in the first instance, the statement set out in paragraph 7 above, omitting the last sentence or re-wording it at his discretion, but that he should be given authority in case of necessity, and preferably after reference to us, to make a statement on the lines of the formula in paragraph 4 above at what he considers the most necessary moment.

10. It was originally intended to refer to the Cabinet the terms of the statement to be made by Sir A.Cadogan. Time is, however, now very short, though it would still be possible to put the matter to Tuesday's Cabinet, provided instructions were despatched to Sir A.Cadogan by noon.

11. I am sending a copy of this minute to

the Secretary of State by Lord Pakenham, so that

Mr. Bevin may telegraph any urgent observations

the is meeting the in it is south or similar,

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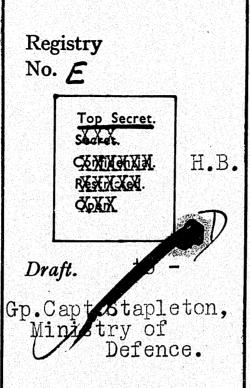
he may wish to make. I am also sending copies to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Minister of Defence, the Chiefs of Staff having put recently on record their views as regards our strategic needs in Palestine.

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

18 th April, 1947.

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Please refer to the Top Secret memorandum No. D.O. (47) 23 of the 7th March, in which the Chiefs-of-Staff emphasised the importance of retaining "our essential strategic requirements in Palestine".

It is recognised in this memorandum that His Majesty's Government are already committed to the reference of the Palestine question to Since this reference was the United Nations. made, there has been a good deal of speculation in the Press concerning the extent to which His Majesty's Government will abide by the recommendations which they have invited the General Assembly to make. There can be little doubt that questions on this point will be put to the U.K. Delegation at the Special Session of the United Nations Assembly which is opening on the 28th of this month, and we think that the Delegation would be placed in a difficult position if they were not able to give any indications of the intentions of His Majesty's We have therefore telegraphed to Government. the Secretary of State in Moscow, asking his approval/ for/incorporation in a speech to be made by Sir A. Cadogan at the Assembly of a statement in the following terms:

"His Majesty's Government have asked the General Assembly of the United Nations to make recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine. All proposals hitherto made for a settlement in Palestine have aimed at one of three

/broad

broad solutions: - a state in which effective authority is in the hands of the Arabs; a state in which effective authority is in the hands of the Jews; or a division of authority between the two peoples, either by means of a bi-national state with a constitution providing for a balance between them, or by means of a geographical partition of the country. If the General Assembly in September make a recommendation determining which of these alternatives shall be the aim of future policy, and if these recommendations are carried by a two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 18 of the Charter, they will be accepted by His Majesty's .Government. H.M.G. must, however, reserve their position with regard to carrying out themselves any policy which the General Assembly may recommend."

If the Secretary of State agrees that Sir A. Cadogan should make this statement in New York, the proposal will be at once submitted to the Cabinet for approval. You may wish, therefore, to draw the attention of the Chiefs-of-Staff to the proposal.

You will note that the statement has been drafted in such a way as to set precise limits to the undertaking given by H.M.G. The statement would commit them to accepting the verdict of the General Assembly on the conflicting claims of Arabs and Jews. It would not commit them, however, to accept any recommendation for placing Palestine under the administration of another Power, or group of Powers. There is also an explicit

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reservation of the right of His Majesty's
Government to decline themselves to implement
a policy of which they do not approve.

I hope you will aging that the action we are suggesting, while it would dissipate the suspicions which might otherwise create a hostile atmosphere in the General Assembly, would, at the same time, not involve any additional risk to our strategic position in Palestine.

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1. 18th April, 1947.

TOP SECRET

Please refer to the Top Secret memorandum No. D.O. (47) 23 of the 7th March, in which the Chiefsof-Staff emphasised the importance of retaining "our essential strategic requirements in Palestine".

It is recognised in this memorandum that His Majesty's Government are already committed to the reference of the Palestine question to the United Nations. Since this reference was made, there has been a good deal of speculation in the Press concerning the extent to which His Majesty's Government will abide by the recommendations which they have invited the General Assembly to make. There can be little doubt that questions on this point will be put to the United Kingdom Delegation at the Special Session of the United Nations Assembly which is opening on the 28th of this month, and we think that the Delegation would be placed in a difficult position if they were not able to give any indication of the intentions of His Majesty's Government. We have therefore telegraphed to the Secretary of State in Moscow, asking his approval for the incorporation in a speech to be made by Sir Alexander Cadogan at the Assembly of a statement in the following terms:

"H1s/

Group Captain D.C. Stapleton, D.S.C., Ministry of Defence.

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"Hie Majesty's Government have asked the General Assembly of the United Nations to make recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine. All proposals hitherto made for a settlement in Palestine have aimed at one of three broad solutions: a state in which effective authority is in the hands of the Arabs; a state in which effective authority is in the hands of the Jews; or a division of authority between the two peoples, either by means of a bi-national state with a constitution providing for a balance between them, or by means of a geographical partition of one country. If the General Assembly in September make a recommendation determining which of these alternatives shall be the aim of future policy, and if these recommendations are carried by a two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 18 of the Charter, they will be accepted by His Majesty's Government. His Majesty's Government must, however, reserve their position with regard to carrying out themselves any policy which the General Assembly may recommend".

If the Secretary of State agrees that Gir Alexander Cadogan should make this statement in Hew York, the proposal will be at once submitted to the

Gabinet/

Cabinet for approval. You may wish, therefore, to draw the attention of the Chiefs-of-Staff to the proposal.

You will note that the statement has been drafted in such a way as to set precise limits to the undertaking given by His Majesty's Government. The statement would commit them to accepting the verdict of the General Assembly on the conflicting claims of Arabs and Jews. It would not commit them, however, to accept any recommendation for placing Falestine under the administration of another Power, or group of Powers. There is also an explicit reservation of the right of His Majesty's Government to decline themselves to His Majesty's Government to decline themselves to implement a policy of which they do not approve.

(I. Garran)

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

FROM BOGOTA TO FORTIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Broadmead. No.88 18th April 1947

0. 5.53 p.m. 13th April 1947. R. 5.39 a.m. 19th April 1947.

PPP

RESTRICTED

Palestine.

Execution of Gruner and others caused Jewish shops in Bogota to close yesterday as protest.

Last night I was rung up late by a person speaking English to say the Embassy would be blown up in a quarter of an hour's time. I immediately communicated with the police [grp. undec.] sub chief; [grp. undec] pointing out that either the residence or office might be involved; prompt action was taken to send police to both. I have to-day discussed the matter further at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and while we agree that the call may only have been practical joking, suitable precautions are being taken.

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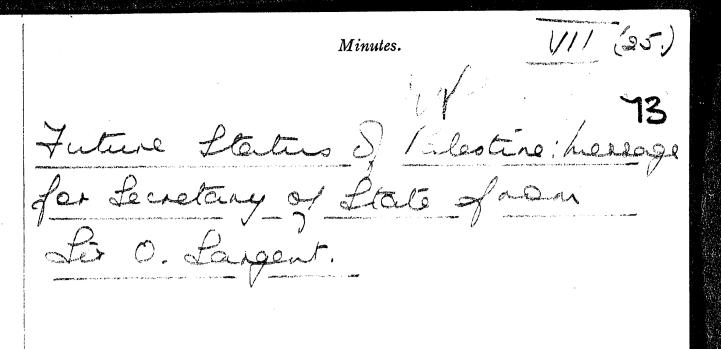
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Secretary of State.

Please see my previous minute attached below which gives a little more background on the Zionist rumour.

I feel that it would be very suitable for Sir A. Cadogan to make the proposed declaration in his opening speech at the Special Assembly. The declaration does not in itself commit us to It limits the recommendations a great deal. of the Assembly which we would be prepared to accept and it specifically reserves our position as regards the implementation of the recommend-Having taken the decision to refer ations. ne to
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see listed in the drait

I submit a draft telegrand Palestine to the United Nations, I do not think that we can really do less than accept the recommendations of the Assembly if they are one of those listed in the draft declaration.

18th April, 1947.

RECORD OFFICE,

In our telegram No.709 to the Foreign Office, we suggest that the declaration that, within certain limits, we would be prepared to accept the recommendations of the General Assembly should not be volunteered at this stage, or only when the Special Assembly had appointed an ad hoc Committee to consider Palestine.

We have not yet had the telegram to which Sir A. Cadosan refers, but I have heard today from Mr. Beeley, who has given me the background. Zionist propaganda is now reperting H.M.G.'s move in referring Palestine to the United Nations as an insincere manoeuvre, stating that we have no intention of accepting any recommendations that we do not like. This was started by an article in the New York Times of 3rd April, which quoted an authoritative source in London as saying that H.M.G. had decided not to relinquish the Mandate in any circumstances. The Delegation in New York, when pressed to answer questions on this report, drewattention to the fact that under the Charter the General Assembly could make recommendations only and not decisions. This was seized on by the Jewish Telegraph Agency in particular as a further admission that H.M.G. were not taking the Assembly seriously.

In the circumstances Mr. Beeley is inclined to think, though he is not sure what general opinion in the Foreign Office will be, that we ought to make the declaration now. We shall no doubt be hearing further from the Foreign Office if Mr. Beeley's view is endorsed there, but in the meantime I thought/it worth recording what he said. The general Foreign Office reluctance to make a declaration has been based on a feeling that it is unwise in general, before we have been asked to do so, to bind ourselves to any future line of action in circumstances which cannot be foreseen.

fore. Kunsky

14th April, 1947.

I while we might awant official Fo. rieur before submitting toth My own Praction is 10th The Zimist propagande attitude is argument against binding musely

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Sir Orme Sargent

PALESTINE

Proposed declaration on attitude of H.M. Government to United Nations recommendations

1. The Secretary of State has approved the suggestion that the Cabinet should be invited to authorise Sir A. Cadogan to make a statement in the forthcoming special session of the United Nations Assembly, on the attitude which H.M. Government will adopt to the Assembly's recommendations on Palestine, in the following terms (except for one amendment incorporated in the last sentence on the suggestion of Sir A. Cadogan):-

"His Majesty's Government have asked the General Assembly of the United Nations to make recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine. All proposals hitherto made for a settlement in Palestine have aimed at one of three broad solutions; a State in which effective authority is in the hands of the Arabs; a State in which effective authority is in the hands of the Jews; or a division of authority between the two peoples, either by means of a binational State with a constitution providing for a balance between them or by means of a geographical partition of the country. If the General Assembly in September make recommendations determining which of these alternatives shall be the aim of future policy, and if these recommendations are carried by a two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 18 of the Charter, they will be accepted by His Majesty's Government. His Majesty's Government must, however, reserve their position with regard to themselves enforcing any policy which the General Assembly may recommend."

2. Coming fresh to the subject, I had misgivings when I saw this draft. I now find that these misgivings are shared by Eastern Department and by United Nations Department. I think that the objections to the statement are so serious that they should be brought to the Secretary of State's attention and before any approach is made to the Cabinet.

They are set out in I attachy a draft telegram to Moscowwich I attach. I understand from Eastern Dept. that home of the points in pare. 2-5 have to thento been brought before the 5.68. Multer 23rd April, 1947.

The wese letter from the C.O.S. Secretariate Hagged A, show's that we should mi any care

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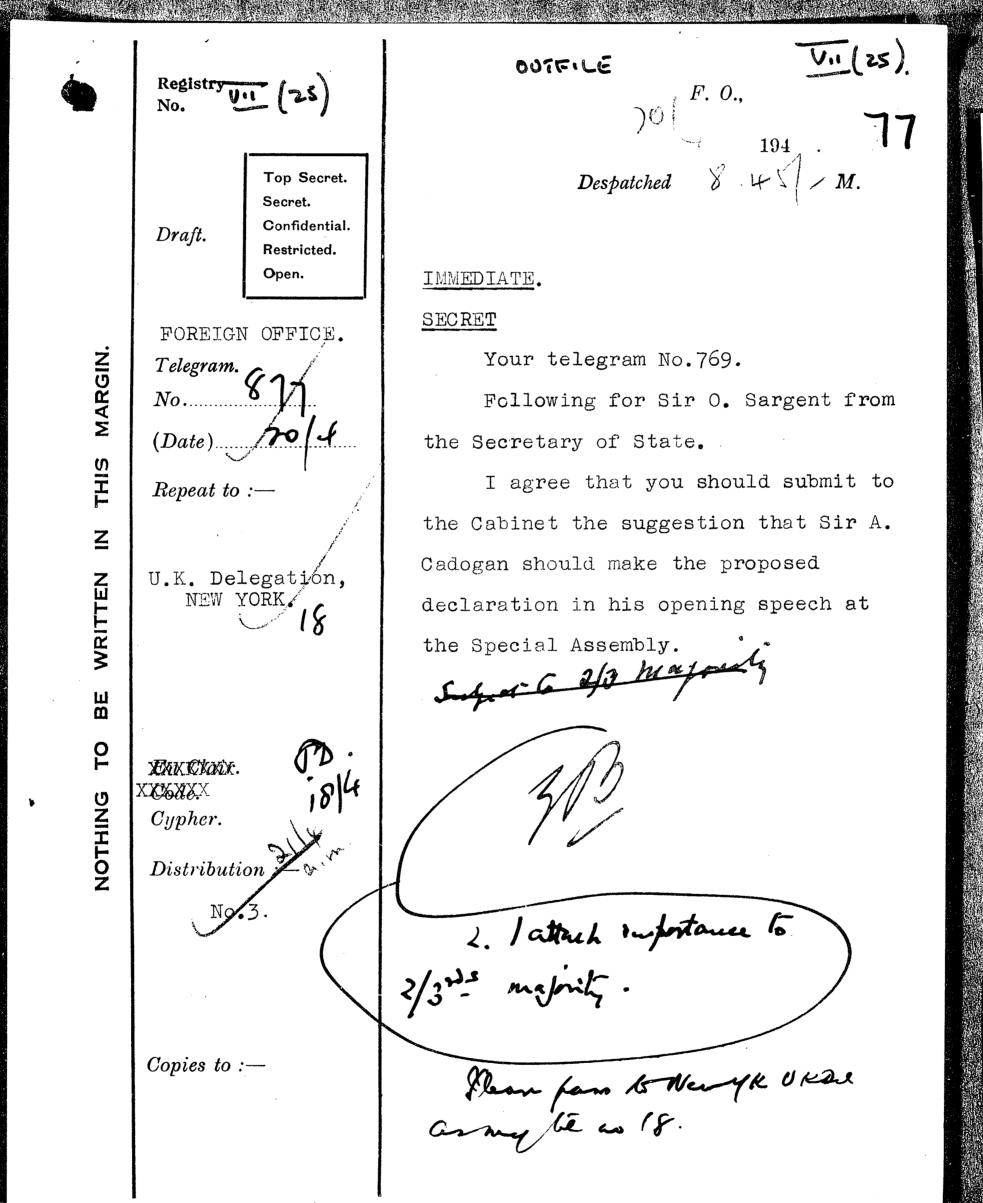
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Cypher/OTP

DISTRIBUTION NO. 3.

FROM UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION MOSCOW

TO FORFIGN OFFICE

NO. 877.
April 20th, 1947. D.8.45.p.m. April 20th,1947.
Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York
No. 18.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Your telegram No. 769.

Following for Sir O. Sargent from the Secretary of State.

I agree that you should submit to the Cabinet the suggestion that Sir A. Cadogan should make the proposed declaration in his opening speech at the Special Assembly.

2. I attach importance to 2/3rd majority.

Please pass to New York United Kingdom Delegation as my telegram No. 18.

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FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to Council of Foreign Ministers).

No. 877.

D. 8.55 p.m. 20th April 1947.

20th April 1947.

R. 7.58 p.m. 20th April 1947.

Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation, New York.

W:W:W:W:W

IMMEDIATE.

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SECRET.

Your telegram No.769.

3092746/21

Following for Sir O. Sargent from the Secretary of State.

I agree that you should submit to the Cabinet the suggestion that Sir A. Cadogan should make the proposed declaration in his opening speech at the Special Assembly.

2. I attach importance to the two-thirds majority.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation New York as my telegram No.18.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation, New York.]

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RECORD OFFICE,

Minutes.

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TOP SECRET

IMMEDIATE

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Your tel. No. 877.

Following for Secretary of State from Sir Orme Sargent.

We have been reconsidering the terms of the draft statement on the attitude of H.M.G. to U.N. recommendations on Palestine, in the light of our new proposal that it should be made in the Assembly itself by Sir A. Cadogan, We have now reached the conclusion that there are grave objections to the present draft.

- 2. In the first place, the Assembly would probably resent the limitation on its freedom of decision which it would detect in the suggestion that its recommendations should conform to one of three given patterns. It may be true in fact that all possible solutions of the Palestine problem must fall more or less under one of these three headings. Nevertheless the Assembly would suspect us of attempting to headward its discussion.
- 3. For a similar reason it seems probable that the statement would not put an end to suspicions of our intentions, but might rather stimulate them. What it says in effect is that we should be prepared to accept any decision given against either/

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either the Jews or the Arabs, But it is carefully designed to avoid committing us to acceptance of a decision given against ourselves, and this omission would be noted and exploited.

which the statement might have on the Arab
delegations, in view of the fact that one of the
solutions which it would expressly commit us to
accepting is the establishment of a Jewish
State in the whole of Palestine. This is a
solution which H.M.G. themselves have never
contemplated. It may not be recommended by the
Assembly, and to mention it as a possibility fit
in our statement would seem to be giving
offence gratuitously to the Arab States on a
major issue. It is to be noted that the Chiefs
of Staff have recently urged that "nothing
should be allowed to interfere with the
improvement of our relations with the Arab

- our acceptance of their verdict as between

 Arab and Jewish claims, they would be less

 inclined to pay attention to such representations

 on points of detail as we might wish to make in

 the course of their proceedings.
- 6. The objections in paragraphs 2 4 above could be met by a redraft of the proposed statement on the following lines

"H.M.G./

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Pulso line:

"H.M.G. have asked the General Assembly of the United Nations to make recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine. These recommendations, if carried by a two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 18 of the Charter, will be accepted by H.M.G. H.M.G. must, however, reserve their position with regard to themselves enforcing any policy which the General Assembly may recommend."

7. We do not, however, feel able to recommend that H.M.G. should enter into so sweeping a commitment at this stage. Our reasons for this view are contained in our tel. No. 550 paragraphs 1 - 2. They would undoubtedly be supported by the Chiefs of Staff, who have already raised objection to the present more guarded draft,

8. We therefore wish to withdraw the proposal in our tel. No. 769, that the draft statement should be made by Sir A. Cadogan at an early stage in the special session of the Assembly, and to revert to the suggestion in paragraph 3 of your tel. No. 709, that the deficaration should be held in reserve.

9. We recognise that Sir A. Cadogan will wish to make some comment on the attitude of H.M.G. to the recommendations which they are asking the Assembly to make. We suggest that he might

remind the Assembly that we have asked for concerning the future government of Palestine recommendations and might then continue on

the/

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TORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM FOREIGN OFFIC: TO MOSCOW.

(To United Iin.dom Delegation to Council of Foreign dinisters).

No. 897

25rd April 1947. D. 1.45 a.m. 24th April 1947.

Repeated to: United Kingaom Delegation New York No. 1227 Washington No. 3982.

v v v

LAEDLATE.

TOP SECRAT.

LIGHT.

Your telegram No. 877.

Following for Secretary of State from Sir Orme Sargent.

e have been reconsidering the terms of the draft statement on the attitude of His lajesty's Government to United Nations recommendations on Palestine, in the light of our new proposal that it should be made in the Assembly itself by Sir A. Cadogan; and we have now reached the conclusion that there are important objections to the present draft.

- In the first place, the Assembly would probably resent the limitation on its freedom of decision which it would detect in the suggestion that its recommendations should conform to one of three given patterns. be true in fact that all possible solutions of the Palestine problem must fall more or less under one of these three headings. Mevertheless the Assembly would suspect us of attempting to restrict its discussion.
- 3. For a similar reason it seems probable that the statement would not put an end to suspicions of our intentions, but might rather stimulate them. apparently undertaking to accept Assembly's decision only if the latter chooses one of the 3 courses we specify, we give the impression that while prepared to accept any

/decision



decision given against either the Jews or the Arabs, we wish to avoid commitment to accept a decision given against ourselves.

- 4. We are also apprehensive of the effect which the statement might have on the Arab delegations, in view of the fact that one of the solutions which it would expressly commit us to accepting is the establishment of a Jewish State in the whole of Palestine. This is a solution which His Hajesty's Government themselves have never contemplated. It may not be recommended by the Assembly, and to mention it in our statement as a possibility that we would accept would seem to be giving offence gratuitously to the Arab States on a major issue. It is to be noted that the Chiefs of Staff have recently urged that "nothing should be allowed to interfere with the improvement of our relations with the Arab States".
- 5. If the Assembly were assured in advance of our acceptance of their verdict as between Arab and Jewish claims, they would be less inclined to pay attention to such representations on points of detail as we might wish to make in the course of their proceedings.
- 6. The objections in paragraphs 2 4 above could be met by a redraft of the proposed statement on the following lines

"His Majesty's Government have asked the General Assembly of the United Nations to make recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine. These recommendations, if carried by a two-thirds majority in accordance with Article 18 of the Charter, will be accepted by His Majesty's Government. His Majesty's Government must, however, reserve their position with regard to themselves enforcing any policy which the General Assembly may recommend".

- 7. We do not, however, feel able to recommend that His Lajesty's Government should enter into so sweeping a commitment at this stage. Our reasons for this view are contained in our telegram No. 550, paragraphs 1 2. They would undoubtedly be supported by the Chiefs of Staff, who have already raised objection to the present more guarded draft, in accordance with the opinion stated in their paper DO(47)23 that "we should retain our essential strategic requirements in Palestine".
- 8. We therefore wish to withdraw the proposal in our telegram No. 769, that the draft statement should be

/made

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: 61773

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made by Sir A. Cadogan at an early stage in the special session of the Assembly, and to revert to the suggestion in paragraph 3 of your telegram No.709, that any such declaration should be held in reserve.

9. We recognise that Sir A. Cadogan will wish to make some comment on the attitude of His Majesty's Government to the recommendations which they are asking the Assembly to make. We suggest that he might remind the Assembly that we have asked for recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine and might then continue on the following lines:

"His majesty's Government have invited the Assembly to consider this problem, and the Assembly must itself be the sole judge of its own recommendations. His Lajesty's Government would therefore regard it as quite inappropriate that they should themselves make any suggestion to the Assembly as to the form which its recommendations should take, and they do not propose to do so. They will confine themselves to placing at the disposal of the Assembly all the information which it requires, and facilitating its consideration of the problem to the fullest possible extent. His lajesty's Government have brought this problem before the assembly in the confident hope that the Assembly will succeed in recommending a practicable and just solution, which will be accepted by all the Parties concerned, and will thus provide a basis for the final settlement of this difficult problem.

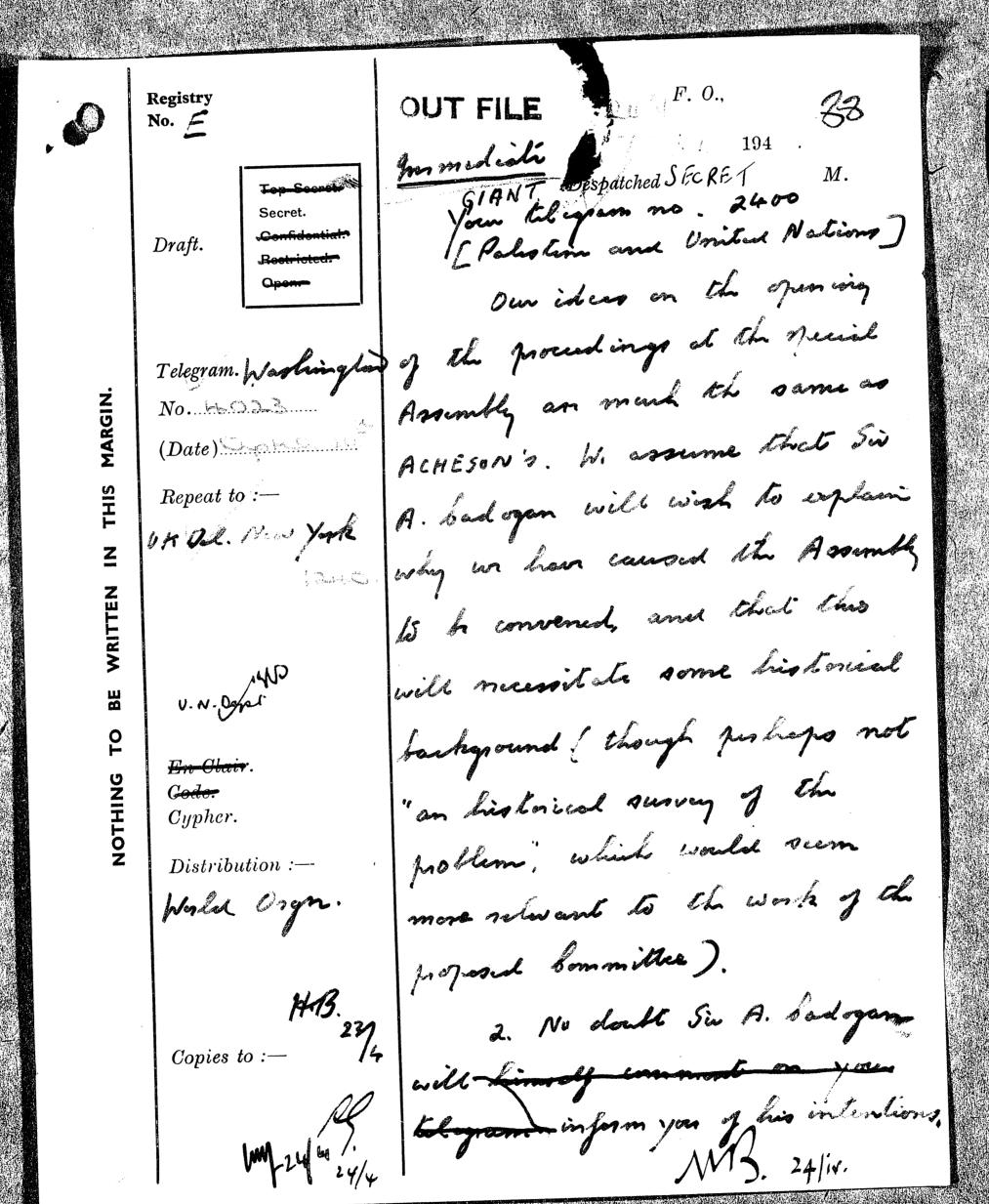
10. Sir A. Cadogan might also be authorised, if pressed to define more clearly the intentions of His Lajesty's Government, to say that His Lajesty's Government before reaching a decision as to their future attitude, must naturally await the conclusion of the Assembly's deliberations.

11. I should be grateful for an early reply, as this question should be referred to the Cabinet in time for instructions to be sent to Sir A. Cadogan.

12. I should welcome Sir ... Cadogan's comments on the above.

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Secret

Cypher/CTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM FORMIGH OFFICE TO WASHINGTON.

No. 4023 24th April 1947. D. 7.35 p.m. 24th April 1947.

Repeated to New York. No. 1240.

PPP

IMPEDIATE

GIANT

SECRET

Your telegram No. 2400 [Palestine and United Nations].

Our ideas on the opening of the proceedings at the special Assembly are much the same as Acheson's. We assume that Sir A. Cadogan will wish to explain why we have caused the Assembly to be convened and that this will necessitate some historical background (though perhaps not "an historical survey of the problem" which would seem more relevant to the work of the proposed Committee).

No doubt Sir A. Cadogan will inform you of his 2. No intentions.

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to Council of Foreign Ministers)

No: 909

D. 2.32.p.m. 22nd April 1947

22nd April 1947

R. 1.40.p.m.22nd April 1947

Repeated to Washington New York

X:X:X:

5 3274/46,31.

Secret.

New York telegram No: 1199 to you, paragraph 3.

I agree that words "themselves enforcing" or "themselves administering" are less open to misconstruction than "carrying out themselves".

Please pass to Washington and New York as my telegrams Nos: 196 and 20.

York]. [Repeated to Washington and U.K. Delegation New

Attach Mr. JBApr. 24

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1199

D. 12.34 p.m. 19th April, 1947

19th April, 1947

R. 8.10 p.m. 19th April, 1947

Repeated to: United Kingdom Delegation Moscow, Washington Saving

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IMMEDIATE

SECRET

GIANT

Your telegram to United Kingdom Delegation Moscow No. 769.
Palestine.

It seems to me that last sentence of draft declaration is capable of misinterpretation which is only toolikely to be exploited by e.g. Jewish circles in this country.

- 2. If we say that His Majesty's Government must reserve their position with regard to carrying out themselves any policy which General Assembly may recommend, it is conceivable that this would be interpreted as meaning that we did not commit ourselves to support such policy as that we did not commend; whereas my understanding is that what Assembly might recommend; whereas my understanding is that what we really wish is to avoid being obliged to be the agents for the implementation of a given policy.
- 3. In the circumstances you may wish to consider substitution of words "themselves enforcing" for words "carrying out themselves".

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation Moscow as my telegram No. 7.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation Moscow].

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THE JEWISH CHRONICLE

RUSSIAN PAMPHLET ON PALESTINE New "Historical" Claim in Support of Arabs

[By a Special Correspondent]

The All-Union Lecturing Office attached to the Ministry for Higher Education of the U.S.S.R. has issued 85,000 copies of a pamphlet telling the Soviet intellectuals what they should think about Palestine. The pamphlet is written by a young historian, V. B. Lutsky, the bearer of a typical Russian-Jewish name,

The pamphlet is written by a young historian, V. B. Lutsky, the bearer of a typical Russian-Jewish name, and is published by the house responsible for the publication of Prayda, the largest Soviet newspaper. The author arrives at the conclusion that the Palestine question is one of the most complicated problems of the present time and that the unrest and internal conflicts in Palestine "seriously threaten peace and general security."

In many respects the pamphlet is but a restatement of the well-known anti-Zionist attitude of Soviet Russia, but it also contains a remarkable new element—namely, the proclamation of the historic right of Russia to have a say in the Palestine question—the claim to an historic continuity in Russian support of the Arab national cause. We are told that Russia as early as 1773 "energetically supported" a great Arab rising in Palestine which pursued the aim of liberation from the "Turkish oppressors." We are reminded that the Russian Revolution of 1905-1907 influenced the emergence of Arab nationalist organisations in various provinces of the Ottoman Empire, aiming at the establishment of national autonomy or even of independent States. "Russia," declares Lutsky, "played an important part in the cultural development of the Palestinian Arabs. The Russian Palestine Society founded 34 Russian schools in "played an important part in the cultural development of the Palestinian Arabs. The Russian Palestine Society founded 34 Russian schools in Palestine for the local population. These schools were the most progressive in the country. Hundreds of Palestine Arab intellectuals were educated in the Russian schools. Many of them attended secondary and higher schools in Russia afterwards. The Arab intelligentsia of Palestine learned the Russian language, read Russian novels and scientific literature, and was attracted and influenced by their progressive ideas."

progressive ideas."

The Soviet author not only pays tribute to the cultural work of Tsarist Russia, but also fully endorses the Palestine policy of Tsarist Russia. He expresses approval of "old Russia's" having rejected British and French claims on Palestine and

subscribes to the thesis of Tsarist diplomacy that Palestine should not be put under the exclusive sovereignty of any single State. "Old Russia," in Lutsky's view, had legitimate interests to defend in Palestine, which included her "schools, hospitals, religious missions, and scientific research institutions"

Lutsky's attack on Zionism is probably the most violent ever made by a Soviet writer, for, besides charging Zionists with being tools of Imperialism, he also accuses them of having co-operated with Hitler in concluding an "agreement with the Hitler Government on conditions extraordinarily favourable to Germany." This agreement, adds Lutsky, guaranteed Germany the first place in the import trade of Palestine and thus "transformed an important part of the Zionist bourgeoisie into an economic agency of German capital."

Lutsky admits that the leadership of the Arab parties in Palestine was concentrated in the hands of feudal and bourgeois elements, but adds that the essence, character, and aims of the Arab movement in Palestine were not determined by those elements.

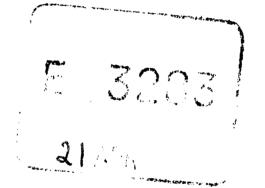
The movement, he says, aimed at the liquidation of the colonial regime and therefore it was progressive. While avoiding any mention of the role of the Mufti, Haj Amin el Husseini, Lutsky gives considerable prominence to the role of the Revisionists within the Zionist Movement, who, according to him, comprise 10 to 20 per cent of all Zionists and call themselves "Fascist Zionists."

While completely ignoring the Jewish Communist Party of Palestine, Lutsky expresses some approval for Hashomer Hatzair, which, he says, had rejected the "Baltimore Programme" [sic], "Left Poale Zion," the "Yishuv" (instead of Ihud) of Professor Magnes, the "New Mapai," the "Socialist League," and "Alia Chadasha." All these groups, he says, tried to find a democratic solution of the Palestinian nationality question, although "not always successfully and logically."

As to the future, Lutsky is just as vague as all Soviet commentators have been before him. He violent ever made by a Soviet writer, for, besides charging Zionists with being tools of Imperialism,

As to the future, Lutsky is just as vague as all Soviet commentators have been before him. He wants "genuine independence and sovereignty for Palestine," but fails to indicate what the relationship between Jews and Arabs is to be in an independent Palestine and how Jewish immigration is to fare.

THE TRUTCHER



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19, april 1947

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Cypher OTP

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DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Houstoun Boswall No. 295

D. 1.48 p.m. 19th April 1947.

19th April 1947.

R. 9.20 p.m. 19th April 1947.

Repeated to Cairo

Bagdad Jedda

Jedda Jerusalem

Amman (Jerusalem please pass as my telegram No. 45)

Damascus (Saving)

rrrrrr

[grp.undec.? Deputy] Foreign Minister told me last night in strict confidence that it had been decided

- (a) to endeavour to attempt inclusion in agenda of special session of United Nations Organisation a demand for independence of Palestine;
- (b) the whole question having been studied no preparatory committee appeared to be necessary, but that if such a committee was insisted on, one Arab State should be included amongst its members;
- (c) to send important spokesman (he said a telegram had been addressed to Prince Saud asking him to lead the Delegation).
- 2. I understand that His Majesty's Minister at Damascus has also learnt the foregoing confidentially from the Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs. So there is probably a good deal in it.
- 3. I explained to the Minister for Foreign Affairs about preparatory committee, speaking on lines of your telegram No. 794 to Cairo. He appeared to see the point, but repeated that one of the Arab States should be represented on it.
- 4. The Lebanon will be represented at New York by their Minister at Washington and Charge d'Affaires in London.

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Cypher OTP

21

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- 4. The Lebanon will be represented at New York by their Minister at Washington and Charge d'Affaires in London.

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Reference: 271 271

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Next Paper.

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Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 FOP

INWARD TELEGRAM

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E 3317

Cypher (O.T.P.)

22

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Gunningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES.

D. 18th April, 1947.
R. 18th " 17.45 hrs.

IMMEDIATE No. 813 Secret.

Addressed to H.M. Ambassador Washington No. 84. Repeated to S. of S.

In view of reaction in the American press to the recent executions in Palestine, and the allegations that accused persons have been deprived by the new Emergency Regulation of Right of Appeal from Military Courts, you may find it useful to have the following information on these two matters:-

- 2. No appeal was lodged by Dov Gromer, Dov Rosenbaum, Mordechai Alkali or Elieser Kashani. The instructions given at one stage to his advocate by Dov Gruner had subsequently been withdrawn by him. Dov Gruner's uncle, Frank Gruner, did lodge a petition in the High Court questioning procedure subsequent to sentence on his nephew. This petition was dismissed by the High Court. An application for leave to appeal against that dismissal was refused by the High Court and subsequently by the Privy Council on the ground that Frank Gruner had no locus standi in the matter.
- Rokech, on the ground that establishment of the Military
 Court was ultra vires and also questioning procedure
 subsequent to sentence on Doy Gruner, was also dismissed by
 the High Court on the ground that Israel Rokach has no locus
 standi in the matter. A subsequent application for leave to
 appeal against that dismissal was rejected by the High Courts.

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The Government was satisfied that any further application to the Court could have no substance, and that in accordance with statement made by the S. of S. for the Colonies in the House of Commons on the 3rd April, any such further proceedings ought properly to be dierogarded.

- The fathers of the other three loaged a potition to the Migh Court questioning procedure adopted before and after the trial of their sons in the Military Court. On the 18th March, this potition was dismissed by the High Court on the ground that Regulation 30 of Defence (Macroeney) Regulations precluded the High Court from colling in question or challenging the judgment of the Military Court. An application for leave to appeal against that dismissal was rejected by the High Court La 24th March. In this case, also, the Government was satisfied that any further proceedings in Court could have no substance.
- 5. The regulation precluding eny appeal from the decision of the Military Court was introduced in 1957, when these Military Courts were first established. The amendment introduced on that April last mersly extended the Regulation so as to include orders by the 0.0.0. in relation to Hilltary Courts.
- Prose agency mossages state that Haldvin has published a statement expressing determination of the United States Political Action Committee for adjecting "to implement counter-measures" and that Senator Galletto has said that in carrying out the executions the British threw away any pretence of justice, and that the American Longue for a Free Palestine must write finis to the Dritish terror. It is also reported that the Major of Wew York arranged a public reception for the erec of the immigrant ship "AERIL".

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Copies sent to:

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- Private Scoretury.
Poreign Office
                                          - Mr. C. W. Banter.
                                          - Sir R.G. Howe.
                   * Dominions Intelligence Dept. (Research Dept.) * Air Commodore K.C. Buss.
                   (Middle Hast
                                         - Mr. D.A. Greeninill.
                        Secretariet)
                                          - Major Gen. A. J. C. Pollock. - Mr. J.C. Robertson.
    3.3
M.I.5
                                          - Gen. Sir L. Hollise
Cabinet Offices
                                          - Group Cap. Stapleton.
- Mr. T.A.G. Charlton.
- Chief of Mayal Staff.
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Admiralty
                                          - C. I. G. S.
War Office
                                          - Not. Col. W. Gors.
                                          - Major Tolfer Smollett.
                                          - Lt. Col. J.G. Atkinson.
               (M.O.4)
                                          - Chief of Air Staff.
- Private Secretary.
- Sir Honry Wilson Saith.
Air Ministry
Ministry of Defeixe
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Private Secretary, No. 10 Downing Street. J.A.R. Fimlett, Esq., Private Secretary to the Lord President of the Council.

INWARD TELEGRAM

Cypher (0.T.P.)

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MDEXED

FROM PALESTINE (Gen.Sir A. Cumningham)

TO S. OF S. COLONIES

D. 22nd April, 1947. R. 22nd

07a00 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No.832

Addressed to S. of S. Repeated to Ambassador Washington, No.89

Execution of Dov Groner and three others.

Following is text of press hand-out (not repeat not communique) issued to the Public Information Officer of Jerusalem to-day. Begins.

Certain misrepresentations have been circulated and have been reproduced in the press regarding the circumstances under which the execution of four Jewish terrorists was recently carried out in Acre Prison without a Jewish Rebbi being in attendance. The facts are as follows:

- In the early part of April, 1947, Rabbi Goldman approached the Acting Commissioner of Prisons and asked for an assurance that the executions of Jewish prisoners under sentence of death would not be carried out without a Rabbi being in attendance. This assurance was given and steps were subsequently taken by the prison authorities to ensure, without prejudicing security errangements, that Rabbi K.N. Magrill, the Resident Jewish Chaplain at Acre Prison, would be available on the day in question.
 - 3. One hour and a half before the time set for / the

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SENT TO DEPT.

the executions Redbi Magrill was approached by the prison authorities and asked to be present in his official capacity. Rabbi Magrill readily agreed, but after discussing the matter with members of his family, who were atrongly opposed to his exposing himself to possible terrorist reprisals, he finally declined. In the absence of anyone to take his place, there was no alternative but to proceed without the attendance of a Rabbi.

to Acre Prison on 28th February, 1947, at the instance of and with the approval of the Rabbinate, and he has conducted Tewish religious services, including the Passover Service, in the prison since that date. He was personally introduced to the prison authorities as a Jewish Rabbi and there have not, hitherto, been any grounds for questioning his eligibility to perform the duties of a Prison Chaplain. Ends.

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Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. M. Beeldy

Reference: FO 371 61773

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SECRET

E 3320

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

Ref: 200/182/47

16th April, 1947

Dear Department:

Please refer to your letter E.2227/227/31 of 31st March about a blackout on the public presentation by British officials of the British point of view on Palestine.

You will remember enquiring in your letter E.1198/46/31 of 25th February about remarks which were alleged to have been made on the Palestine question by Carvell in Los Angeles and Robinson in Minneapolis. At the time those incidents occurred the London talks were in progress and it seemed possible, from various indications which we received, that an organised attempt was being made by Zionists to convey the impression, through such distorted accounts, that British officials here were attacking the Jews and the U.S. Administration. It was quite clear that these stories were widely believed, not only by Zionists but by gentiles in this country. It seemed to us important that no handle should be given to the Zionists in this way to worsen any chance that there might be of success in the London talks, and, after discussing the matter here, we decided that British officials should be asked not to speak in public for the time being on the question of Palestine. This did not of course preclude them from putting the British case in conversation or in answer to any letters which they received. In fact officials of the Embassy and of B.I.S. have continued to seize every opportunity to do this. Since our efforts have been directed primarily at Congressmen, publicists and others who are in a position to influence public opinion, this method has proved more successful than any amount of public speaking on the subject of Palestine.

Eastern Department, Foreign Office, London, S.W.1

The/

FO 371 61773

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The ban on public speeches was maintained after the end of the talks because of H.M.G.'s decision to refer the question to the United Nations and the accompanying negotiations with the State Department about the manner in which this should be done. It was obviously important to get them to agree to some procedure which would enable preliminary work to be started quickly. For this purpose it was desirable - bearing in mind the concern which the State Department had shown over the Carvell and Robinson incidents - to avoid the risk of exposing them to pressure by any unscrupulous Zionist manoeuvres of this kind, which might have prevented them from agreeing as rapidly as possible to what we had proposed. At the time of the incidents in question they did receive a flood of correspondence from people who believed the stories without bothering to check their accuracy, and we wanted to ensure that this kind of distraction did not prejudice the major objective of getting things moving at New York.

Now however that the immediate difficulties over procedure have been overcome, the Ambassador has decided to remove the ban.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY



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EASTERN

107E-Tir

Parliamentary Question

18. Sir John Mellor,—To ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in what respects, by what authority and why, the Palestine Government restricted the freedom of British residents in Palestine in addition to restrictions applicable to the inhabitants generally; when these special restrictions will be removed; and, meanwhile, what arrangements have been made to mitigate hardship and the dislocation of business. [Tuesday 15th April.]

Chaigeses ween

ANSWERED 17 APR 1941
REPLY ATTACHED.

NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER

F.O. ARE NOT ASKED TO ADVISE.

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Reference: FO 371 61773

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PALESTINE British Residents (Security Restrictions)

Sir J.Mellor asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies in what respects, by what authority and why the Palestine Govern-ment restricted the freedom of British ment restricted the freedom of British residents in Palestine in addition to restrictions applicable to the inhabitants generally; when these special restrictions will be removed; and, meanwhile, what arrangements have been made to mitigate hardship and the dislocation of business.

hardship and the dislocation of business.

Mr. Creech Jones: British residents in Palestine are in general required to reside and work within the security zones. The authority for the restrictions imposed is Defence (Emergency) Regulation No. 133A, which empowers the High Commissioner to instruct the Chief Secretary to serve on any person or class of persons such directions as may be deemed expedient for securing their personal safety. The restrictions placed on British residents are designed first, to secure their safety and, secondly, to ensure that Security Forces are not hampered in their work of maintaining order by an undefined commitment in respect of British residents who are liable to be selected for attack or abduction. It is impossible to say when these restrictions will be removed; they these restrictions will be removed; they are under constant review, and will be are under constant review, and will be modified or removed as soon as security conditions permit. It has already been possible to allow certain minor relaxations. Every effort is being made to mitigate hardships and dislocation of business by such measures as the provision of police escorts for essential journeys.

1 7 APR 1947

RECORD

RECEIVED IN C.B.

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IT TO DEPT.

PALESTINE British Residents (Security Restrictions)

Sir J.Mellor asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies in what respects, by what authority and why the Palestine Government restricted the freedom of British residents in Palestine in addition to restrictions applicable to the inhabitants generally; when these special restrictions will be removed; and, meanwhile, what arrangements have been made to mitigate hardship and the dislocation of business.

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1 7 APR 1947

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State A area A was to the world

Parliamentary Question

69. Mr. Erroll,—To ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies, if he will publish details of the number of Arabs who have been found guilty of carrying arms in Palestine this year, sentenced to death and hanged; and the number of Jews who have been found guilty of the same offence during the same period and how many have been hanged; and what are the comparable figures for 1936-39. [Wednesday 16th April.]

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ANSWERED 17 APR 1944 REPLY ATTACHED. F.O. ARE NOT ASKED TO ADVISE

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With the Compliments of the Under-Secretary of Scale for Dominium

Affairs. 20 APR 1947

INWARD TELEGRAM

113.

CODE

CANADA (H.C.) FROM:

D.O. $\underline{\mathrm{TO}}$:

D. 16th Apr., 1947, 4.10 p.m. R. 17th " 1.36 a.m.

Mo. 366

Secretary of State for External Affairs has announced that the Canadian Delegation to the forthcoming special session of the United Nations Assembly to consider Palestine will be composed of officials with Pearson as leader. Copies sent to Embassy Washington, and United Kingdom Delegation New York.

Copy to:-

Foreign Office Mr. F.T.A. Ashton-Gwatkin

Mr. J.P.G. Finch (6)

Mr. H. Beeley

Mr. E.E. Tomlins Colonial Office Mr. Trafford-Smith

at of circumstances going to lay natever doubt the Minister or particular point must have been experience of the last seven years. To the teeth, with soldiers tumbling sufficient room for massing troops. The and ships and supplies he ocean because of the want of a ection on the coast of this country. Heir neighbours had continued to notials they could to keep the even the confort of this country.

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to maintain an Army to meet an Efficiently strong to blast and they were going to do that las it not time the Mininter ith toys? The Minister should real purpose of their peace-time totes, to stand by and behind the to their young men, and to eremonial of State.

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COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON Reference:

Dominions Office Reference No. F. 2780/32.

with the Compliments of Mr. WALSH.

Date 3-5-1947.

Reference

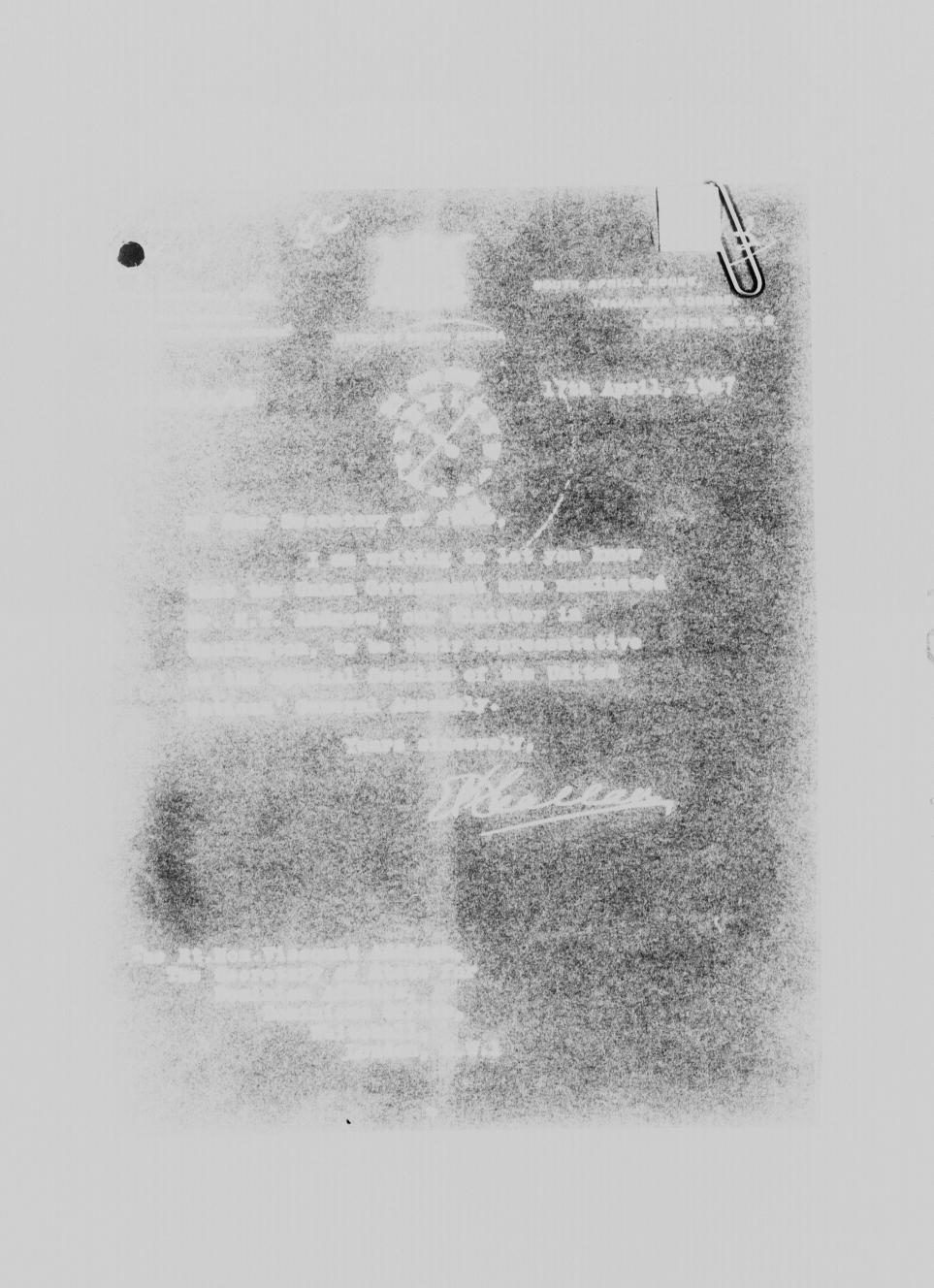
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at of circumstances going to lay natever doubt the Minister or a particular point must have been experience of the last seven years. To the teeth, with soldiers tumbling sufficient room for massing troops. It is and ships and supplies he ocean because of the want of a ection on the coast of this country. Their neighbours had continued to notials they could to keep the even the confort of this country.

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for a grander purpose, then



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m. 117

(This is an unparaphrased version of a Secret cypher message and unless it is marked O.T.P. (One Time Pad) the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British and United States Government Services.)

INWARD TELEGRAM

CYPHER (TYPEX)

FROM:

CANADA (H.C.)

0.D.

3332 46

<u>TO</u>: D.O.

D. 24th May, 1947. 4.01 p.m.

R. 24th " 11.55 p.m.

No. 472.

Canadian Government have announced that Mr. Justice Rand of Supreme Court of Canada will represent Canada on Palestine Special Committee, and will be accompanied by Mr. L. Mayrand.

Rand is fresh to problems of Palestine but enjoys a high reputation in legal circles, and has latterly had considerable experience in industrial conciliation matters. He is aged 63. Mayrand is a French-speaking member of D.E.A., who was serving at Canada House at the beginning of the war and has recently returned from Embassy in Moscow.

Copy sent to Embassy Washington and to United Kingdom delegation New York.

Copy to:-

Colonial Office Foreign Office

Mr: Trafford Smith

Mr. H. Beeley

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3332		Plea s e see the telegra	um within, and Mr.Mason's
		comment on my attached minu	ite.
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		item in accordance with Rul Assembly's rules of procedu	le 18 of the General are. The Iragi Foreign
		Minister, when I discussed that in his opinion a two-t	the point with him. said
		be necessary for placing th the special session. This	is item on the agenda of
		the Arabs will argue that t	he phrase "items
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		"itemsplaced on a supplemental substitution in Rule 18.	mentary 11st" referred to
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		have the opinion of U.N. De Beckett on this suggested in	epartment and of Mr.
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		U.N. 0/45.	H. Beeley 24th April. 1947.
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En Clair

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FORDIEN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No.1225 22nd April,1947. D. 10.34 a.m. 22nd April, 1947.

R. 5.56 p.m. 22nd April,1947.

Repeated to Washington Saving.

Q Q Q

IMMEDIATE

Following received from Secretary General of United Nations telegram No. 29 of April 21st.

[Begins].

Kindly bring following attention your government.

[Begins].

Have honour inform you that Egyptian Government has requested inclusion following item in agenda first special session General Assembly "the termination of the mandate over Palestine and the declaration of its independence". In accordance Rule 18 provisional rules procedure this item will be placed on the supplementary list.

[Ends].



The later was to

121

Mr. Baxter

I had lunch today with Dr. Jamali. He told me that the Arabs were opposed to the formation of a preparatory Committee by the special session of the United Nations Assembly, and that they wished to initiate a discussion on the substance of the problem at the special session itself. They had taken steps yesterday to place on the agenda a resolution for the immediate independence of Palestine and the termination of the British Mandate. He did not think that a two-thirds vote would be necessary in order to place this resolution on the agenda. When I expressed doubts about this, Dr. Jamali admitted that the relationship of Rule 17 to Rule 18 of the Assembly's provisional Rules of procedure was not altogether clear.

He was evidently prepared for failure in this first objective, for he then raised a number of questions about the composition of the proposed Committee and its terms of reference. On the first point his main anxiety seemed to be that the Russians might be enabled to play too active a part in the settlement of the question; he was not sure whether the Arabs should resist this, because on the issue of Palestine Russia was a possible ally.

The most interesting observation Dr. Jamali made was that, if a committee were established, its terms of reference should instruct it to consider the problem of Palestine in the light of the principles expressed in the United Nations Charter. He repeated this several times, adding that in his view a pro-Zionist solution would be impossible to reconcile with the Charter.

H.Beeley.

22nd April, 1947. See the item has new computing fully secretion forward. As it was not in the mind promotional agenda
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THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE,

Margin in this Nothing to be Written

LIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

9. U.K Del New York with ref. no.174.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: 6 371 61773

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]. 124

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION.

FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Eyres.
No. 315
22nd April 1947.

D. 3.20 p.m. 22nd April 1947. R. 7.00 p.m. 22nd April 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem Saving.
British Middle East Office Cairo Saving.

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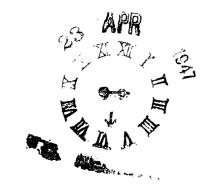
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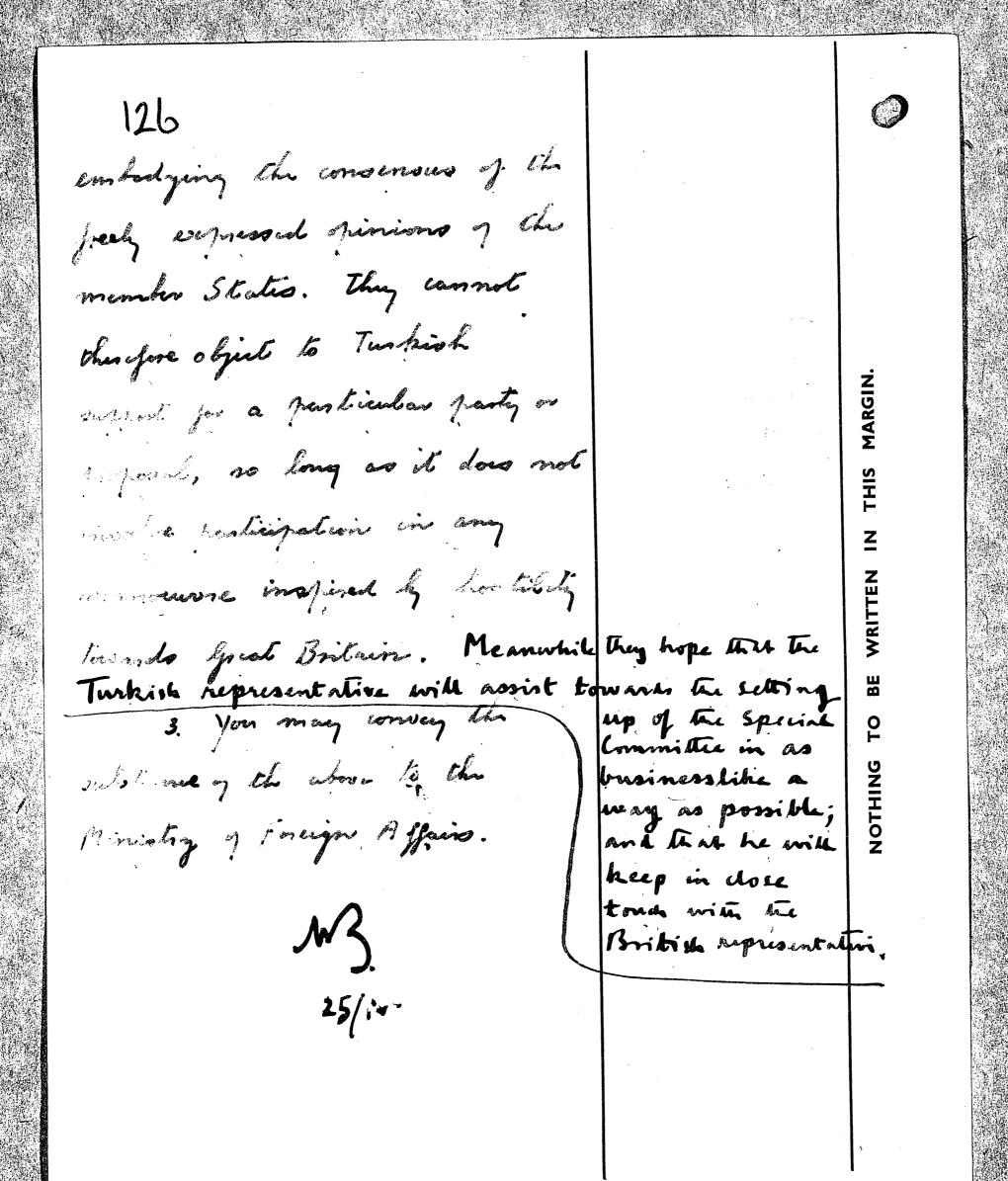
E 3373

Deputy Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent for me today and said that the forthcoming special meeting of General Assembly might present difficulties for Turkish delegates. He said that as we knew it was the constant aim of the Turkish Government to align their policy with that of His Majesty's Government. On the other hand, with our encouragement, the Turkish Government had recently done much to improve their relations with their Arab neighbours. It was possible that during special meeting there would be heated debates and Turkish delegates might be placed in a dilemma. Turkish Government would therefore like to know whether His Majesty's Government had decided to adopt any particular line at this meeting.

- paratory meeting to elect a commission to report to the full meeting next September, at which it was the intention of His Majesty's Government to present a factual report on the Palestine problem and on their efforts to solve it, but not to suggest any solution. In these circumstances I presumed the attitude of His Majesty's Government would be a neutral one. Fuad Carim nevertheless asked me to enquire whether His Majesty's Government intended to take any definite attitude at the special meeting and whether they had any advice to give the Turkish Government. Even if it was only advice to remain neutral, it would be of assistance.
 - 5. Fuad Carim asked for an early reply.



125 OUT FILE No. E 3373 (46 (31 M.Despatched Top Occret. Secret. mm d who Confidential. Draft. Restricted. Your telepan no. 315 Open. [Tusking and Palistins] Telegram. Amgira of oppose the terms of your No. 336 rophy to the Dopuly Sentary general. (Date) 1 125 Repeat to :— His Majisty's Gumment will and granden. an attitude of neutrality in the B.M. 6.9. continuing follower Ands and Jung not only at the special tissently hat throughout the proceedings arising from their reference of Palaste to the United Notions, Cypher.2. Il does not follow, however, Distribution:-World Dign. that they desire other States to prouve a similar neutrality. that



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B 3373/46/31

Secre t

Cypher/OTP

ORLD ORGANIS TION DISTRIBUTION

FROM FURLIGN OFFICE TO ANGORA

No.336 25th April, 1947. D. 4.40 p.m. 25th April, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem Baving B.L.E.C.Cairo ho.142 Saving.

. . . .

LIEDIAIE SECRET

Your telegram Ro. 315. [Turkey and Pelestine].

I approve the terms of your reply to the Deputy Secretary General. Mis majesty's dovernment will maintain an attitude of neutrality in the controversy between arabs and Jews, not only at the special . assembly but through ut the proceedings arising from their reference of Palestine to the United Lations.

- 2. It does not follow, however, that they desire other States to preserve a similar neutrality. hat they wish eventually to obtain from the Assembly is a recommendation embodying the consensus of the freely expressed opinions of the member States. They cannot therefore object to Turkish support for a particular party or proposal, so long as it does not involve participation in any manoeuvre inspired by hostility towards Great Britain. Reanwhile they hope that the Turkish representative will assist towards the setting up of the Special Committee in as businesslike a way as possible; and that he will keep in close touch with the British representative.
- 3. You may convey the substance of the above to the Linistry of Foreign Affairs.

M 00 M

In Beeley

J. N. Del

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May 13

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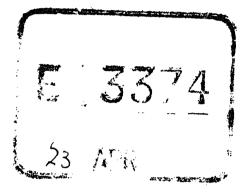
Downing Street.

21st April, 1947.

IMMEDIATE

BY HAND.

SECRET.



Dear Finch,

With reference to the discussion on Palestine at the High Commissioners' Meeting last Friday, I enclose a copy of a letter from the Canadian High Commissioner in London outlining the views of the Canadian Government which is expected to be set up by the Special Assembly.

19.4. A. Re Preparating

You will no doubt wish to bring the Canadian Government's views to these woken of the concerned in the Foreign Office.

Yours sincerely,

Jawaesh

J.P.G. FINCH, ESQ., O.B.E.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

1

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON



April 19, 1947

Dear Machtig:

I have received a telegram from Pearson this morning which gives some indication of how the people in Ottawa are thinking about the various proposed methods of organizing the Preparatory Committee which it is expected the Special Assembly will set up to consider the problem of Palestine.

They have some misgivings over any proposal to exclude the Great Powers from the Special Committee on Palestine, although there would be obvious advantages in the United Kingdom being a non-voting member with the right of comment only. In the first place, a report in the preparation of which the United Kingdom and the United States had not participated in any way might well be of so impracticable a character as to be entirely unacceptable to the states which would have to put it into effect. A report of this nature would require so much revision that it might obstruct rather than facilitate debates in the General Assembly.

A committee which excluded the Big Five would have this further disadvantage. It would probably include one of the Soviet republics or states, such as Yugoslavia, which would fully represent the views of the Kremlin. No western state, however, would wish to be put in the position of having to represent the views of either the Foreign Office or the State Department.

/ For

Sir Eric Machtig, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., O.B.E. Dominions Office S.W.1

View that the Big Powers should not be permitted to evade their responsibility in the Palestine question by staying off the Special Committee. It seems to them that a committee of fourteen might be appropriate, there being precedents for this number in the Executive Committee and the Preparatory Commission. Such a Committee should include the United States, France, the Soviet Union, and possibly China. It should also include the United Kingdom in an advisory capacity. It should not include any Arab state, nor should provision be made for membership by any Jewish organization.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) N. A. ROBERTSON.

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Registry No. 133 Scoret. OUT FILE Ryaft. Dean Walsh. Secret. Corifidential. 1 stepped to your letter of the 24h Restricted. april last unclosing a cope of a letter from the Comme letter from the Commandan bout Comme letter the Mr. Finch on the myact of the special assembly Mr. J.A. Walsh, which is amiduring the Palestin Dominions Mice Que l'in instructions to deux delegation to the posite herpols ? Cops When. Brilley U.K. Allegation of investigation was left often and the under-chanding that there would be bretuining New look. Mr. garran. Mullius On receipt I your letter we sent Ramy Dyt. forst. So that they chunted

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(88574/46/81) Secret. 19th May, 1947.

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oped lest, enclosing a copy of a letter of 19th oped from the Consider High Jammissioner on the country the Consider High Jammissioner on the country the Special Session of the Jecably which is considering the Paleotian costion.

In the instructions to bur delegation to the opecial decide the question of the side and composition of the committee of investigation was left upon on the understanding that there would be preliminary consultation with the State department and the United States representatives. In receipt of your letter we sent a copy of the Canadian High Commissioner's litter to the Delegation in New York of that they obtain be aware of the Garadian Covernments views. So agains also that the vertex Comments views.

Yours sincerely

(Sqd.) (J.F.G. Much)

J.A. Walsh, Sec., Dominions Office. COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

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F.O.P

EASTERN

Parliamentary Question

3. Sir Ernest Graham-Little,—To ask the Prime Minister, upon what principle Government departments issue advertisements in journals; and why the Jewish Standard, which consistently attacks British policy, constantly secures paid advertisements from departments. [Friday 18th April.]

NOT FOR CRAL ANSWER F.O. ARE NOT ASKED TO ADVISE.

173

(51)

ler B

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

Sir E. Graham-Little asked the Prime Minister upon what principle Government Departments issue advertisements in journals; and why the "Jewish Standard," which consistently attacks British policy, constantly secures paid advertisements from Departments.

The Prime Minister: The space for Government advertising is purchased (through recognised advertising channels) on the principle of securing maximum results from the expenditure incurred. In the selection of media for the Government's various advertisements, regard is not paid to the political or other policies followed by the journals as organs of opinion, and I do not think that it would be the wish of the hon. Member that Government advertising should be placed in such a way as to give preference to journals supporting, rather than dissenting from, Government policy.

10 1Ph 1947

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E 3393

BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

17th April 1947

24 APR

SECRET

Ref: G2/ /47

Dear Department,

Would you please refer to U.K. Delegation New York telegram to you No.1140 of 10th April and your telegram No.3717 of 16th April concerning the line of criticism being used by Zionists about the alleged British attitude towards the eventual recommendations of the United Nations on Palestine.

The U.K. Delegation's view is borne out by the enclosed advertisement inserted in the newspaper "P.M." of 16th April by the American Zionist Emergency Council which is, as you will remember, the main political Zionist body in this country. This advertisement also appeared in the Washington Post and, more significantly, in the New York Times, of 17th April. The latter has not so far carried advertisements of this sort.

We see from your telegram No.3539 of 11th April that the Secretary of State is in favour of holding any declaration on this point in reserve. As seen from here there would appear to be some advantage in putting an early stop to these unjustified accusations by issuing such a declaration before the Special Assembly meets. Otherwise there is a risk that Zionist propaganda may succeed in implanting in the minds of delegations to the Special Assembly, before they embark on their discussions about procedure, the impression that H.M.G. do not intend to pay much heed to any recommendations which may ultimately emerge if, in the opinion of H.M.G., these would favour the Jews unduly - (for that is what the accusation amounts to).

We are sending a copy of this letter to the U.K. Delegation to the United Nations at New York.

Eastern Department, Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

America must not consent to Another British Delaying Device

"LONDON, April 2.—The British have definitely decided not to relinquish their mandate in Palestine to the United Nations when the General Assembly meets to consider the Palestine problem, it was learned in an authoritative quarter today.

"In fact, the British seem determined to reserve their position all along the line and . . . they point out that the General Assembly can make only recommendations, not decisions.

"Hence, any decision must, in the final analysis, be made by the British Government and not by the United Nations. This means that the British, in effect, have given up nothing so far as Palestine is concerned. Moreover, it was made clear that they consider the present situation as 'frozen' until the United Nations makes its recommendations, if any."

-Herbert L. Matthews, New York Times

"LAKE SUCCESS, L. I., April 3.—Great Britain has reserved her right to reject any United Nations decision on the future of Palestine, it was made clear today.

"The British request for General Assembly consideration of the Holy Land does not automatically commit London to acceptance of whatever the Assembly decides. At the same time, officials of the British delegation explained this afternoon, Great Britain is ready to give thorough consideration to any Assembly recommendation."

-Kenyon Kilbon, New York Herald-Tribune

RITISH offical spokesmen have thus themselves laid bare the tactics of His Majesty's Government.

Should the findings of the United Nations prove acceptable to Great Britain—that is to say, should the British Government be permitted to evade its obligations to the Jewish people under the Palestine Mandate—it will lose no time in putting such recommendations into effect.

However, should the United Nations declare that Great Britain has failed to facilitate Jewish immigration and settlement in Palestine in accordance with the clear provisions of the Mandate, has violated international and moral law by imposing the notorious White Paper policy on the country, and should it summon Great Britain to remove all barriers to the continued development of the Jewish National Home—then the British Government will reserve to itself the right to reject these recommendations.

This maneuver is part of a well-established British technique. The most recent example was the cynical disregard of the unanimous recommendations for immediate action by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. This Committee was proposed by Great Britain in lieu of President Truman's request which was made more than a year and a half ago, that 100,000 homeless Jews be permitted forthwith to enter Palestine. Through it, Great Britain sought to create an impression of impartiality and fair-mindedness. Foreign Secretary Bevin assured the Committee that if its recommendations would be unanimous they would be implemented immediately.

It is now more than a year since this Committee, composed of six Britishers and six Americans, unanimously recommended that 100,000 Jewish refugees be admitted into Palestine at once and that the outrageous racial land laws which Great Britain has imposed upon that country be abolished. These recommendations have been completely ignored and Mr. Bevin's pledge lies unhonored.

Great Britain has now brought about another inquiry as a substitute for action. It has achieved another investigation of a problem which has been studied and investigated innumerable times. While these investigations and discussions will go on—probably for months—in the United Nations, hundreds of thousands of weary, suffering men, women and children, the pitiful survivors of a people which suffered most during the war, must continue to languish in DP Camps.

And for what? So that the British Government may be given more time to try to break their morale, scatter their numbers or force the Jewish people to accept the outrageous solution which Mr. Bevin is resolved to impose?

Should not the first act of the United Nations when it meets in Special Session be to demand that, pending its final decisions, the Mandatory Government of Palestine be required to abrogate its illegal immigration and laws and to fulfill its original obligations under the Mandate?

The tragic situation brooks no delay. The deliberations of the United Nations may drag out indefinitely. There is no guarantee of a decisive solution, even at the end of these deliberations. In the meantime a terrible human tragedy is mounting to a disastrous climax in the Displaced Persons Camps of Europe.

Will not our own Government now take a vigorous stand on this pressing issue and on the permanent solution, in accordance with America's traditional policy?

Is the human problem involved in the plight of these myriad victims of the war of little concern to mankind? Is the explosive political situation in Palestine of less urgency than that of Greece and Turkey, which has called forth such vigorous, determined and quick action on the part of our State Department and of all the agencies of our Government?

The American people, who have time and again indicated their profound and sympathetic interest in this problem, have a right to expect that their Government, whose Executive and Legislative Branches have committed themselves repeatedly to a policy of free Jewish immigration into Palestine and the continued development of the Jewish National Home, now take the initiative in the United Nations, and that it speak and act with forthrightness, earnestness and determination.

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